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THE

# Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION.

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## Ecclesiastical Affairs.

### NOT SO DARK A LOOK OUT AS IT SEEMS.

In the good-humoured but very pertinent and pointed observations of Sir Wilfred Lawson to his constituents on the Disestablishment question to be brought before the House of Commons next Session, we find one sentence which we take leave to impress upon the minds of our readers. "Let us be in earnest," he says, "and the battle will not be so bad as we expect." There is a volume of truth in this terse expression of opinion. We begin to question whether the Parliamentary struggle upon which we are entering will be so fierce as that which effected the Abolition of the Corn Laws, and whether the mover of the resolution to extend the policy adopted in 1869 in reference to the Irish Church to the other Church Establishments in the United Kingdom, will have to face so formidable an opposition as that which the Hon. Charles Villiers confronted, when he first tested the feeling of the House on the question which had been pressed upon the attention of the country by the Anti-Corn Law League. The proverb which exhorts us to beware of waking a sleeping lion, is one to which no little deference is due—but there are occasions on which we may be bound to disregard it, when, of course, we must be more solicitous about the manner of doing it, than about the act itself.

We strongly incline to the opinion that Sir Wilfred Lawson is right, because the principle the application of which we desire to extend, has already been embodied in legislation for one part of the kingdom. We owe Mr. Gladstone an incalculable debt of gratitude for having taken, and successfully taken, the first practical step on the path we have marked out for ourselves. He has done the country this service—he has demonstrated the fact that the thing may be done. He has grappled with the bugbears which mounted guard over the State-Church system, and has stripped them of the terrors with which imagination had clothed them. It is no longer an impracticable idea in the belief of the public. It is only, as Mr. Stansfeld put it at Halifax, "a question of time." Whether that time is to be earlier or later may admit of much difference of opinion—but it is not a difference which can evoke the same strong emotion as that which turns upon the substantial merits of the policy in dispute. Twenty years ago the separation of the Church from the State presented itself to perhaps the large majority of Englishmen as a revolutionary, if not a sacrilegious, movement, which would not bear looking at. To-day, it is doubtful whether any Englishman of cultivated intelligence would seriously regret waking up to-morrow and finding the thing done. The first and greatest shock to prejudice and tradition is over. The plunge has been made; and in the words of the hon. baronet, the member for Carlisle, it was "not so bad as was expected."

Few persons, perhaps, and especially if they move exclusively in Nonconformist circles, can guage the immense amount of latent opinion there is amongst the Church laity in favour of disestablishment. Even among the clergy of the Establishment the opinion is fast spreading, that connection with the State imposes restrictions too galling to be compensated for by their legal status and endowments. But the bitter dissensions which have, of late years, rent the nominal unity of the Church into sections, have so vexed the peace of its lay members, as to render large numbers of them indisposed to uphold an arrangement which by virtue of law encloses within one communion such ever-surging and ever-conflicting elements. May we not also say that they are waking up to the fact that no greater calamity can befall a people,—none which operates more powerfully as a moral blight—none which more surely and steadily undermines their character for manliness, truthfulness, and reverence for sacred verities, than for their religious instructors, clerical or secular, to be placed by law under strong temptations to be cowards to their own convictions? Disestablishment will lift the entire apparatus of spiritual agency up to a higher plane of action—and a fair proportion of the unofficial members of the Church of England have silently arrived at that conviction.

The most formidable of the difficulties we have to face are those which root themselves in misapprehension of our object. It has not been possible, as yet, to dispel from the minds of—we fear we must say—the bulk of sincere Churchmen, the notion that an unfriendly blow is about to be aimed at their Church, and that she is in danger of being despoiled of rights to which she is justly entitled. Nothing can be a greater mistake—and yet no mistake could be more obstructive to our progress. But how is it to be counteracted? How, so effectually as by Parliamentary discussion? It will soon, we trust, be generally accepted as a fact, that Disestablishment will neither humiliate, nor weaken, nor even impoverish, the Church as a spiritual institution—that it implies no necessary dislike of her doctrines, her discipline, or her ceremonial—that it will release her members to a freer and more independent action in the promotion of her objects—and that it will annul none of her historical associations but such as they would wish to forget. Convince them of the truth of these allegations, and they will speedily be brought to acquiesce in the policy which they now regard with such apprehension. But to correct their erroneous surmises it is indispensable that their minds should be got at—and the only, as well as the most effectual, way in which the vast majority of them can be got at on this question, is by employing the electric light of Parliamentary debate. They will not be illumined all at once—but they will not, for any long period, be able to evade the knowledge which will reach them through this medium.

No! the battle will not be so bad as was expected—always supposing, however, that we are in earnest. It was on this hypothesis that Sir Wilfred Lawson based the encouragement he ministered to his friends. It is on this that we must build our confidence. The strong will—that is the earnest will—is what we most need, and what will serve us best, in this righteous enterprise. If we resolutely walk up to apparent difficulties, the odds are that they will vanish before us. Certainly this is not a contest in which the end is to be gained by shilly-shallying. We need not offend against courtesy. We need not forget charity. But none the less must we pursue the evil which we have set ourselves to get rid of, as men who will not shrink from following wherever duty leads.

### ECCLESIASTICAL NOTES.

The correspondence which has taken place between Mr. Gladstone, on one side, and Mr. Kinnaird and Mr. Chambers, on the other, with respect to the unfortunate Stradbally letter, will, no doubt, tend to allay the alarm of a large number of the right hon. gentleman's political supporters. It will be remembered that Mr. Gladstone expressed himself in undisguised language as to the duty of the English Government, in the event of certain circumstances, to interfere on behalf of the Pope. After long silence, Mr. Gladstone has now explained, substantially, that he meant really nothing by the language that he had used. He has informed Mr. Kinnaird that he never intended to pledge the Government to do anything to mix itself up, in any manner, with the Pope's spiritual power, but that he only wished to express a readiness, should personal restraint be placed on the Pope's person by any event, to represent the grievance to the Italian Government. This is perfectly unobjectionable, and nobody would have said a word upon the subject if Mr. Gladstone had so explained himself at first. But, unfortunately, everybody, including the Stradbally electors, unavoidably put a very different construction upon his words. However, nothing has been done; no party breach has occurred, and what has now been said is calculated to restore all our confidence, in this respect at least; but it is to be hoped that the Premier will write no more letters to Stradbally.

Some Nonconformists, as a deputation convened at the instance of the committee of the Liberation Society, have had, as will be seen, an interview with Mr. Gladstone upon the subject of University Tests. The Bill of last year having been thrown out by the Lords, it has been deemed desirable to discuss the subject of the clerical fellowships with a view to their abolition. It could not have been anticipated by the deputation that Mr. Gladstone would consent to enlarge the measure in this respect. Probably he thinks that the Government will have enough to do to carry the measure of last year, and that it would be wise and politic not to give the Lords a new reason or excuse for rejecting it. The position of the question will be found detailed below in an account of the recent interview. We give also, in this connection, a report of a remarkable meeting recently held at Leicester, at which a letter from the vicar of Leicester, the Rev. D. J. Vaughan, was read expressing his approval of the object of the meeting. Mr. Aldis's address upon this occasion was of a very able and comprehensive character. We are glad especially to read his remarks upon the religious character of University education. The old argument upon this subject,

which Lord Salisbury has endeavoured to support, is now pretty well exploded. Nothing that the Legislature can do, either by imposing new or keeping old tests, is at all likely to lead to an atom of improvement in the Universities in this respect. When it ceases to meddle with the subject, and when Churchmen, especially, cease to trust in these tests instead of in the character of the graduates and undergraduates, and the tone of Christian feeling and principle, there may be some better hope for religion in the Universities than can now be entertained.

Are we actually nearing a better and a "sweeter" time than we have yet enjoyed? When we read such a paper as that of Dr. Miller's read before the Evangelical Conference at Islington last week, on "Charity in Controversy," we are inclined to think it may be so. Dr. Miller is one of the men of his party who could enforce the duty of charity without condemning himself. We can remember no occasion when he has violated it. Dr. Vaughan, in his recently published Temple Sermons, has touched a note in harmony with this. He says,—

What is union? What is unity? How natural to answer, "It is the possession of one polity, one worship, at least, one creed." Some minds have found a satisfaction in the idea of an Œcumenical Anglicanism, have shed sympathetic tears in the gathering of a hundred Anglican bishops when great Rome could have easily assembled her thousand bishops, as uniform in their utterances as the others were discordant. And yet, my brethren, neither here nor there was that unity of which Christ spoke. Church government does not make it. The triple organisation of bishops, priests, and deacons —that magic sound which to many is so musical—may leave us to the end in all the confusions of Ritualisms and Rationalisms, which are the plague of our hearts in this seventieth year of our troublesome nineteenth century. It may be a comfort to some minds to stretch brotherly embraces across Atlantics and Pacifics with bishops of very corrupt churches, tolerated because they are Episcopal. To me it would be a far more blessed sight if English Nonconformity might be kindly accosted by English Episcopacy; if the shadow of fraternity abroad might be the reflection of the substance of fraternity at home. For me it is enough, it is more than enough if the country in which God has cast my lot can live at peace in things spiritual; fraternity with Sweden or Greece or Abyssinia is a figment to which I, a dweller at home, can no more give shape or form than I can expect to sit in one Parliament with Italy or America.

The times that hear these words cannot be altogether "out of joint."

We have another word or two of somewhat similar import, in an article on "Disestablishment or Comprehension" in this month's *Christian Observer*. The writer is of opinion that towards one of these goals we are not drifting, being "rapidly impelled by influences powerful in themselves from without, and powerful owing to their situation from within." He wants to know which would be best and which is it to be? Thirty years ago, he considers, a few concessions and comprehension would have set in with a mighty force, but its day seems now to have gone by. He thinks, however, that there is a lurking desire amongst some Nonconformists for standing room in the Church, and amongst those of less polemical bias, a decided advance towards what is so often called Churchmanship, in regard to sacraments, ritual, &c. Besides this, and with respect to the more demonstrative signs of "an almost fierce thirst for disestablishment," there is, it is remarked, a persuasion of the difficulty of disestablishing. But for Ritualism, the Church would probably have tided over the rock of disestablishment, but now,—

Disestablishment, owing to these and other causes, seems the more probable side of the alternative that approaches "hull up," and with increasing speed, to our Church. The Nonconformist papers—and it has become a solemn duty (would it were always a pleasure!) to read these journals—say scarce anything whatever of comprehension, filling their columns with such bitter and implacable attacks upon the "State Church" that a village blacksmith friend of mine, to whom I lend the *Record*, has given up his Nonconforming paper while keeping firm hold of his Nonconformity for the present, and tells me he is "utterly tired, dead sick of it, from beginning to end." But it all does its work, hits its mark with deadly effect, makes statesmen believe it speaks the mind of whole bodies of earnest men, heartens up the despairing, and from behind its *omne ignotum pro magnifico* hedge, may become no small part of an ultimately successful disestablishing onslaught.

Then comes the following practical suggestion,—

Might not a conference of Churchmen meet together, and after trying, in the first place, to extract from representative Nonconformists a statement of what they aim at; then, in the next place, agree upon a united line of either acquiescence in, or resistance of, the demands of outspoken Nonconformity, if such a statement could be obtained?

This article is a new thing in the controversial literature of the Evangelical party. Weak it may be, but it is mild. We scarcely ever expected to see the time when an organ like the *Christian Observer* could discuss the question of disestablishment with calmness, much less suggest that it might further the interests of religion.

The Ritualists are bent upon strengthening the condemnation of their moral position, in which all parties outside of their own circle unite. They now protest against suspension of a clergyman from the exercise of his office by the civil power. They say that it is contrary to the commandment of God, done without the consent of the Church, a violation of the constitution, and so on. Then why virtually acquiesce in it? Why obey the suspension? Have these men never read the Acts of the Apostles, and something there said about obeying God rather than men?

## THE LIBERATION MOVEMENT.

LEEDS.—A lecture on "Civil Government perverted by the Union of Church and State" was delivered on Wednesday night, in the Civil Court, Leeds Town-hall, by the Rev. W Best, B.A. Mr. E. Morgan presided at the commencement of the proceedings; afterwards the chair was taken by Ald. Carter, M.P. The lecture was most able and comprehensive, and occupied an hour and a half in delivery. Some discussion followed, after which a vote of thanks to the lecturer was cordially adopted. Mr. Carter, M.P., in responding to the vote of thanks to the chairman, defended some of the statements of his recent speech which had been called in question.

DUMFRIES.—On Monday evening Mr. A. Carey Fuller delivered a lecture in the Mechanics' Hall, Dumfries. Bailie Shortridge was in the chair, and in introducing the lecturer made a few remarks on the great influence which the exertions of the Society had in enlightening the public mind on the subject of State-Churches. The gentleman who represented the society had been the instrument of throwing much light on the subject. Mr. Johnstone, in a few remarks, proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Fuller for his able lecture, which was heartily agreed to. The Rev. D. L. Scott moved the thanks of the meeting to the chairman, and the proceedings terminated.—*Dumfries Standard.*

DALBEATTIE.—On Friday night Mr. Fuller gave an address in the Free Church schoolroom on "Tiends, Manse Rates," &c. He demonstrated from the history of these rates the gross inequalities connected with them, and the injustice of the rates themselves, and urged in a most convincing manner the necessity for their entire abolition. Although the subject was necessarily somewhat abstruse, it was the means, in Mr. Fuller's hands, of conveying much interesting and curious information relative to the temporalities of the Church of Scotland. The Rev. Mr. Wright, Free Church, in proposing the thanks of the meeting to Mr. Fuller, adverted to the anti-patronage ball which some in the Establishment had set a-rolling; and he expressed his belief that it would become an avalanche that would sweep away in its course very much more than the first movers of it ever dreamt of. Looking at the larger question, his conviction was that the axe which had just laid the Irish Establishment low, was now hovering in mid-air, and preparing to strike at the roots of the Scotch and English Establishments as well. The Rev. Mr. Kinnear, U.P., who presided, thanked Mr. Wright for the unmistakable language in which he had spoken on the subject of Establishments. He particularly disclaimed, in this opposition to the unjust assessments by which the Established Church was maintained, any antagonism to the members of that Church. On the contrary, indeed, he hoped, judging from the course of events, that the Establishment of Scotland, and the other Presbyterian Churches holding the same Confession of Faith, were each advancing in no doubt different but still not parallel lines, but lines converging to that point at which they would be all able to unite without the loss of any. Perhaps those who so strongly opposed the present union movement might be the means of answering a wise end in thus retarding that union until those now in the Establishment had been so advanced as to be able to meet them all in a still larger union. The great sounding of hammers heard around them was, he trusted, but an indication of the preparations for the upbuilding of so glorious a temple. The meeting was a good representation of the members of both the Free and U. P. Churches, and the place was quite filled, several having to stand.

WIGTOWN.—A lecture was delivered by Mr. Fuller in the Assembly Rooms on the evening of Monday week, the subject being "The Church and State Question, its present aspects in this country and in Europe." The chair was occupied by ex-Provost Murray, and the audience, notwithstanding the unfavourable state of the weather, was pretty numerous. At the close of the lecture Bailie M'Kie proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Fuller for the lecture, to which they had listened with pleasure and approbation. He wished the meeting to take this along with them, that the Society Mr. Fuller represents does not set itself up to distinguish between what is truth or not truth in regard to religion. It is only the disestablishment of any form of religion that the Society is engaged in. The thanks were heartily awarded. The Rev. Mr. Squair moved a vote of thanks to the chairman, who, in responding, remarked emphatically that the Church would suffer no loss if it were disestablished to-morrow, and general disestablishment was a mere matter of time.

NEWTON STEWART.—Mr. Fuller, on Wednesday, the 18th, delivered a lecture in the Victoria Hall on "The Church and State question, its present aspects in the country and in Europe." The attendance was good, and the chair was occupied by the Rev. J. Goold, Reformed Presbyterian Church. On the platform were also the Rev. Mr. M'Culloch, Free Church; the Rev. E. Smith, United Presbyterian, and several other gentlemen. After delivering a very able and instructive lecture, in which Mr. Fuller showed that the days of all religious establishments were, by the rapid concurrence of recent and present events, not only in this country but throughout the continent, most certainly drawing to an end, a vote of thanks to the lecturer was proposed by Mr. Goold, and cordially agreed to.

STRANRAER.—Mr. Fuller's lecture in the Town-hall here on Thursday, the 19th, was on the same subject as at Wigtown and Newton Stewart. The meeting was held in the Town-hall, which was about half-filled, the Rev. R. Hogarth in the chair. The Rev. T. Dobbie moved a vote of thanks to the lecturer, and, in an earnest speech, argued the urgent need for disestablishment in Scotland. The Rev. G. Sherwood, F. C., concluded the meeting with the benediction.

WHITHORN.—On Tuesday evening, Jan. 17, Mr. Fuller delivered a lecture in the United Presbyterian Church in this town, on the Disestablishment of the Church of Scotland, the Rev. J. Fleming in the chair. The audience was numerous, and the lecture was well received. The Rev, F. F. Anderson, F.C., moved a vote of thanks in a very earnest speech, eulogising the lecture and expressing his great dissatisfaction with their member, the Lord-Advocate, for his conduct in opposing M'Laren's Bill for the Abolition of the Church and Manse Assessments.

## DISESTABLISHMENT OF THE ENGLISH CHURCH.

### BIRMINGHAM.

A meeting in advocacy of the disestablishment of the Church of England was held on Thursday night in Zion School Room, Newhall-street, Birmingham; Mr. J. S. Wright presided. In opening the meeting he said the question of the separation of Church and State was becoming one of the most prominent questions of the day, not only to thinkers, who had already expressed their opinion upon it, but to the general public, and ecclesiastical questions would, no doubt, shortly occupy the attention of Parliament. Changes had in the last five years occurred within the Church which had made some of the best Churchmen come to the conclusion that it would be for the good of religion to be relieved from the trammels of the State. The State also would be a great gainer if it could be relieved from discussing ecclesiastical questions, for almost a third of the session was sometimes devoted to such matters. Baptists, Wesleyans, and Independents did not require the attention of Parliament to their concerns, neither should Episcopalians bring the affairs of their Church before Parliament. Even those who thought the State should take religious matters under its control, were recognising the impossibility of deciding what phase of religious belief should be sanctioned. Nonconformists believed the time of dissolution of the connection between Church and State was not far distant, and how far would depend on the manner and the earnestness with which the question was pressed on the attention of the Government.

Mr. DAVIS proposed the following resolution:—

That this meeting, believing that the connection of the Church with the State is injurious to both, and being of opinion that the time has arrived when that connection should be severed, expresses its hearty satisfaction at hearing that Mr. Miall, M.P., has given notice that he will introduce a motion to that effect during the next session of Parliament, and pledges itself to support the movement in every possible way.

Mr. HEATHCOTE seconded the resolution. He disclaimed any wish to injure the Church, and professed that his desire was to build it up—to build up the true Church of Christ, to make of the Episcopal Church a more spiritual body. The discussion of question in Parliament would do good in exerting a great educational power upon the nation.

Mr. TAYLOR supported the resolution. He said that although the Church was connected with the things that Nonconformists were opposing, they were not opposing the Church itself. He believed the Church had done a good work in this country, and that there was no organisation to be compared with her parochial work; still, that parochial work would not be interfered with by her separation from the State. One of the strongest arguments used in favour of a State Church was this, that without it the villages would be in utter darkness; but he affirmed that where they found a village with no other form of religious organisation in it than the State Church, in that village the condition of religious, knowledge, or rather of religious ignorance, was a disgrace to the Church. (Hear, hear.) He spoke not from hearsay, but from his own observation; and he said further that the ministers, so-called, in some of those villages, and the influence they exerted, and the work they performed, if work it could be called, were anything but evangelistic—anything but calculated to give to the people a high sense of their obligations to God, engender in their minds a sense of the spiritual, and lead them to that which was high and elevating. In hundreds of villages the people saw in their ministers that which was low, and sordid, and selfish, and in many respects that which was animal; they consequently got their idea of religion from the way in which they saw it exhibited in their person.

The Rev. H. W. PARKINSON (of Rochdale) also supported the resolution. He said he believed the success of this movement would very much depend on the spirit with which it was conducted. If Nonconformists were violent and unfair and unjust, they would postpone their own triumph to an indefinite period. They might learn a lesson in this respect from the manner in which the Anti-Corn Law and Reform agitations were carried on. It would be granted by all that the Church, as founded by

Jesus Christ as a spiritual institution, was not dependent for its existence on the support of the State. If the State withdrew all patronage from it, it would still continue to be. Otherwise how was it founded? The disciples and apostles were left to propagate the principles of the Christian faith without any aid from rulers and kings; so far from the State giving them any aid, they called them before their judgment seats, and commanded them to speak no more in that name. So long as the Church was poor and feeble, and had to make its way by the strength of its internal convictions, the State persecuted it; but when it became too strong for the State, the State encumbered it with help, and had been encumbering it from that time to this. We were unfortunate in this country in having a Church which had always been connected with the State and established by the civil law. So far as we knew, the introduction of Christianity into England did not come by apostles, but by an emissary from Pope Gregory, who from the first entered into alliance with Ethelbert, King of the West Saxons, and they together proceeded to make the people Christians. Mr. Moffat related that the King of an African tribe asked him how his doctrines were received by the people, and on his replying that some received them gladly, while others mocked at them, the King said, "All these objectors and despisers you bring to me, and I will soon make them Christians." This was how Christianity was spread, when an emissary of the Pope and a King got together. As time went on, the system of Church and State grew, and bishops went on circuits along with judges into the provinces, and sat alongside the judges: ecclesiastical and civil offences were judged together, and ecclesiastical offences were always the more severely punished of the two. Canute ordered the payment of Peter's pence, and it was to him we traced the institution of tithe, which still existed in a commuted form. Peter's pence was abolished by law, and so by law tithe might yet be abolished; tithe, in its present form of a debt which the proprietor of land owed to the Church, was only held in existence by law, and the people had the right to repeal that law. This event was the more likely, because it could no longer be said that religion and the Church were identical. Churchmen could no longer say, "The Temple of the Lord are we." The Lord now did His work in the world by many of those who were cast out, and at the present time the country would scarcely be worthy the name of a Christian country if it were not for the exertions of those religious men who had been working outside the pale of the National Establishment. As the Church grew rich the parochial system was devised, and though it was now productive of a great deal of spiritual good, it was introduced to map out, and more securely hold, and more deftly manage, the overwhelming amount of property of which the Church had become possessed. If spiritual advantages had accrued in later times from this division of the land, it had been in spite of it rather than because of it. A time came when one-fifth of the cultivated land of the country had become the property of the Church, and in virtue of their life tenure of these lands the abbots and bishops claimed a right to sit in the House of Peers; the right was accorded, and they thereby obtained an increased power to levy their exactions and oppress the liberties of the people. They had often been on the point of being sent to their dioceses, to attend to the spiritual duties which they would so much rather attend to than be distracted with the affairs of a guilty world. (Laughter.) So impartial and nearly unimpassioned a writer as Hallam condemned in the weightiest and gravest terms the public and political conduct of the bishops and peers, saying, in effect, that their conduct had always been to prefer their own interests to the good of the community or the welfare of the people. They had been slaves continually to the power which placed them in their position, and so they had in every case gone counter to those great popular movements to the success of which Englishmen owed their liberties at this day. Mr. Parkinson then showed how intimately the Church entered into the life of the people, from birth to death, and said the work of dissevering it from the State seemed so mighty that it never could be accomplished till it was borne in mind what great things the force of public opinion was capable of effecting. Of family country livings, and their occupants, he said it was marvellous, that institution of Providence by which so safe a harbour was devised for such incompetent men. To show how the wealth of the Church had grown up, he said, that at Rochdale, there was an annual revenue of 4,500*l.* to the rector from property which was, he understood, originally left by a Roman Catholic for the burning of candles and singing masses for his soul. This money, if so left, was not rightly the property of the Church. It was true the Church had got as far as having candles, though they were not lighted, but as to prayers for the testator's soul, that was out of question. The State establishment of religion only existed as a system; it was quite indifferent to religious truth. Some might cavil at this statement, but in England the State Church was Episcopal, in Scotland it was Presbyterian; both these forms of Government could not be right. Until the Irish Church was disestablished all forms of religion were supported in Ireland—the Presbyterian by the Regium Donum, the Episcopal by the glebes, and the Roman Catholic by the grant to Maynooth. It was therefore evidently a matter of indifference to a great many people what the particular form was which was supported, so long as patronage and influence were maintained. Dissenters, Mr. Parkinson concluded, were called political. How could they help being political Dissenters in the presence of a political Church? If the Church would leave Dissenters alone they would leave her alone. When a man went to the colonies he had a most tender affection for his native land; he would wish to have the same birds singing in the woods, the same fish swimming in the streams. But did he want to take the National Establishment over with him? Not a fragment of it. He had resolved that in his new home religion should be as free as the wind that blew over his head. (Hear, hear.) All that Dissenters at home demanded was, to be put under the same conditions as those who dwelt in the colonies, so that religion might not be any longer the liveried servant of the State, sent out to do the State's errands, and to receive the State's wages, but might go forth in the force of native power, and of the convictions which she could implant in the individual conscience, in order to secure the conquest of the world. (Cheers.)

The Rev. W. F. CALLAWAY supported the resolution, and humorously compared the Church clinging to the State, to an exciseman whom some Cornish smugglers captured. They bandaged his eyes, and took him to the top of the cliff, then suspended him to a tree, and told him he was hanging over the beach. He clung to a branch till he could hold no longer, and then gave himself up for lost, and let go, when, instead of falling 150 feet, and being dashed to pieces below, he found he had all along been hanging only six inches above the ground.

The resolution was carried, and thanks were passed to Mr. Parkinson and to the Chairman.

## M.P.'s ON THE DISESTABLISHMENT QUESTION.

At the recent meeting with his constituents at Bradford, the Right Hon. W. E. Forster, in reply to a question whether he would vote for the separation of Church and State, said:—"I do not know whether I ought to answer it without having consulted the Premier, but I suppose that I am free to say that I agree with the statement which Mr. Gladstone made on Mr. Williams's motion last session. My personal opinion is, that as long as the majority of the people of this country—which I believe to be the case at present—do not desire the separation of Church and State, and as long as that union is good, so long will I support it." (Loud cheers and hisses.) To another question he replied:—"Mr. Gladstone opposed a motion last session for the exclusion of the bishops from the House of Lords. Against this fact I will set what is also a fact, that I some time ago expressed an opinion that the bishops would be better out of the House of Lords. At the same time I have no desire to leave you in any doubt as to my course. I cannot support any motion to exclude bishops from the House of Lords unless, at the same time, clergymen are admitted to the House of Commons. If a motion is made next session for the exclusion of bishops from Parliament, and the Cabinet decides to oppose it, I cannot vote for it. I do not think it is a question on which I am called upon to cease being a member of the Government."

At the meeting at Halifax, Mr. Stansfeld was also asked if he would vote for the separation of Church and State. His reply was as follows:—"I must put an interpretation on that question, and I must assume it means, 'Will I, in the coming session of Parliament, vote for any resolution which may be brought forward for the immediate severance of Church and State?' Now, you know perfectly well that it would be impossible for me as a member of the Government to give any such vote. You know my opinions upon the subject of Church and State, and I will repeat them now. If we had now to consider the question anew, I do not believe that a dozen sane men could be found in this room, or perhaps in this town, who would propose to create in this country a State Church, because the State Church does not contain within its pale as many as those who are outside that pale, and the fundamental idea of a State Church is that it shall at least represent the faith of at least a very large majority of the population. And there is another reason, and it is this, that a national Church and a State Church that professes the popular belief should not be divided within itself. And we know that the Church in this country at this very moment is tending to sever into sects. Therefore, in my opinion, the conditions do not exist in this country which justify the creation of a State Church, and as in my opinion also those conditions will remain at least as unfavourable to the existence of a Church allied to the State, I think that the question of the separation is simply a question of time." (Cheers.)

The following is an extract from Sir Wilfred Lawson's recent speech to his constituents at Carlisle:—

I have nothing whatever to say, in attacking the State Church of this country, against its doctrine, discipline, or ceremonial. The members of that Church are just as devoted and sincere in their belief as the Nonconformists. I only say it would be well if they would explain what their creed is—we see most tremendous fights among them. But if they would settle it among themselves, it would be all right. It would make no difference to me whether Dr. Pusey knocked down Mr. Voysey, or whether Mr. Mackonochie upset Dr. McNeill. It would not make one straw of difference to me. Neither of them have any right in justice to levy a tribute upon the people to carry out their opinions. I say the principle of a State Church is a principle of persecution. The State has nothing whatever to do with opinion, but opinion concerning spiritual matters is a matter for a higher court than the High Court of Parliament. (Cheers.) But, gentlemen, has the system worked well for the Church? I cannot see why they should be so keen in supporting it, and of clinging to this supremacy—this power of obtaining public support. Why, I read a speech the other day of the Dean's. (Cheers and laughter.) He has gone to war with somebody, and is getting the best of it. He said they had got "distinct judicial sentences against twenty-two ceremonies of the Ritualists," and then he goes on to say—and I am sure he is one of the best men in the Church, and I say it honestly—"He did not believe that in the whole history of the Church of Christ they would find any period when there was a body of persons so rebellious, so pertinaciously setting at defiance every authority in the Church to which they professed to belong. They were rebels against the powers that be." I think they had better give up the whole of this State machinery, and trust to the honesty of their own purposes and the truths they declare to the people. (Cheers.) I remember two lines, in which the poet says:—

> Love, free as air, at sight of human ties,
> Spreads his light wings, and in a moment flies.

So I say of true religion; it will not be fettered by the bonds of legislative fetters, but it takes its departure when it is linked in that unholy alliance with the State. (Cheers.) I enlarge on the Church and State questions, because as sure as you are sitting here it is the coming question, a question which will draw the dividing line between parties, and a question which may in the long run break up the present Administration, and I want you all to be on the right side when the voting comes. How degrading it is to see what are called "cures of souls" put up in the market like so many pigs and sold to the highest bidder. (Hear, hear.) It is as revolting to see bishops appointed solely for political purposes to add to the power of their political chief, who has the appointment in his hand. (Hear, hear.) And is it not sad to see clergymen who have the cure of souls in this State Church—there are fewer of them now, I am happy to say, than there were—leading most immoral lives, conducting themselves in a manner which would not be tolerated for a day—if for an hour—in any other sect not connected with the State Church. (Hear, hear.) I know there are many men who are conscientiously attached to the State Church, who mourn over these things as much as you and I do; but I will tell them that they never will get free of them till they make up their minds to cut the rope which unites them with the State. Having said this, you may be sure there will be no warmer supporter than myself of the motion which Mr. Miall intends to bring forward, which declares that the English Church ought to be dealt with in the same manner as the Irish Church was dealt with in the session before last. (Cheers.) Let us be in earnest, and the battle won't be so bad as we expect. Mr. Gladstone said on one of his speeches last session that he did not think he could attack that Church and he did not know where he would yet any artillery to batter it down, even if so minded. Well, by your voices and your votes supply him with the artillery, and he will go at it. (Laughter.) He must act; or Mr. Disraeli, there is no doubt, if he sees it will get him six months' power, will be willing to upset the English, the Welsh, the Scotch Church, or any other Church in Christendom. (Loud cheers, and laughter.) Ah! gentlemen, it is coming faster than some people like. (Laughter.) Let me quote a sentence written a few weeks back by your own good bishop, who makes very sensible remarks, though rather mystical when he gets upon Russian bears. (Laughter.) He writes to his clergy:—"I cannot shut my eyes to the possibility of a great change coming sooner or later over the status of the Church of England; she may possibly cease to be an Established Church." Then he gives some very excellent advice:—"I regard it as highly desirable that we should accustom ourselves to a kind of action which in the case of a Disestablished Church becomes an absolute necessity." It won't do to be idle when the Church is disestablished. (Laughter.) What a suggestive remark that is? "It is best to practise swimming before the craft becomes a wreck." (Cheers.) I like that sentence very much. Every word is suitable. You observe he does not talk about swimming away before the "ship" or "bark" becomes a wreck, but before the "craft" becomes a wreck. (Laughter and cheers.) I rather wonder he did not add one short text to the sentence, and say—"for this our craft is in danger." (Renewed laughter and cheers.)

## A CHURCHMAN ADVOCATING DISESTABLISHMENT.

On Jan. 16, under the auspices of the Liverpool branch of the English Church Union, Mr. Henry Clark read a paper in Hope Hall on "Disestablishment essential to the well-being of the Church of England" Mr. W. Scott Tucker presided, and introduced Mr. Clark to the audience as a friend of the great Catholic movement in this town. He also remarked that the question of the disestablishment of the Church of England at present occupied the attention of all religious bodies of this country, and he had no doubt that unless England was unfortunately involved in war, this would be one of the great questions for the consideration of Parliament in the ensuing session.

Mr. CLARK, after disclaiming any revolutionary spirit or faithless Churchmanship, proceeded to remark that the constitutional union of Church and State implied an equal and well-balanced liberty for the one and for the other. This was guaranteed by the Magna Charta, and it once existed. In those times the alliance was perfect, but in course of time large bodies of the community having refused obedience to the Church, the principle of mutual ties and obligations between herself and the civil power was, and had continued to be, completely violated. In the statute-book, however, the connection still existed. The Church remained fettered, whilst the State being indifferent and even inimical, not only claimed to be free from its obligations, but was gradually stripping its old ally of the rights and privileges she once enjoyed. From this continued State connection the Church now suffered many disadvantages. She had no choice in the election of her bishops—her chief officers—because, although the nominal right belonged to the dean and chapter, who solemnly met and invoked the Divine guidance to enable them to choose a chief pastor of the diocese, the choice had already been made by the Prime

Minister, or by some of his friends; and in case of refusal to elect the person so recommended, heavy penalties, such as the forfeiture of land, and even imprisonment ensued; and in case of refusing to consecrate, the bishops were laid under similar penalties. The impropriety was self-evident of leaving the selection of the bishops practically to the leader of the House of Commons, a body largely composed of persons hostile to the Church, their leader being possibly a Nonconformist, a member of the Roman Church, a Jew, or even a Deist. It was no wonder, then, that the occupants of the Episcopal bench had been often unworthy, and that thereby the grand mission of the Church had been frustrated. The civil power also claimed to fill the office of dean, which had been useful for family connections or political purposes; and beside the Crown livings, Government claimed to fill up any voidance created by an appointment to any of its own livings or offices. Its influence was also indirectly felt in the choice of archdeacons. Another disadvantage of State connection was that the Church's own parliament—Convocation—was ignored, and the usage of nearly two hundred years had reduced it to a mere form and shadow. From the reign of William III. to Victoria, Convocation never met but to be immediately prorogued, and although during the last few years, by favour of Government, it had met for a day or two, its deliberations had no effect, and it was nothing more than what the *Times* described it—a debating society. A third grievance was, that in case of appeal the Church was not allowed to possess a court of her own, before which all Churchmen would willingly consent to appear; and the civil power was so far intruding itself into the Church's peculiar province as to suspend her clergy from their spiritual offices. The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council being a tribunal partly chosen by the Government, and selected, he believed, and removed at pleasure, was capable of working untold mischief to the Church. Every one who accepted the Thirty-nine Articles must recognise this as a usurpation. The 20th Article laid down that "The Church hath power to decree rites and ceremonies and authority in controversies of faith." This power the State now exercised and forbade it to the Church. Surely such an unprecedented and outrageous exercise of power demanded her immediate divorce from the tyrannical connection which enthralled her. The supremacy of the Church proclaimed by law over other bodies of religionists was a cause of harm to herself which was not sufficiently recognised. Although suffering from no actual disabilities, Nonconformists felt the incongruity and unfairness of any one sect ranking higher than another, and the under-current of hostility and ill-will thus engendered was participated in by the religious-minded as well as by the so-called political Dissenters. Another disadvantage to the Church from her State connection was that self-government was denied her. Parliamentary supervision ran throughout her whole external constitution. In many respects the ecclesiastical acts were utterly incongruous and irreconcileable with one another. There was always a disadvantage in the junction of two bodies, one of which was careless about or hostile to the other. What had been the attitude of the State towards the Church? Did not facts prove that it was one of unfriendliness and almost unrelenting hostility? But, perhaps, the most serious disadvantage under which, from her State connection, the Church was suffering, was that she was powerless to reform and amend herself. On every side she was cramped and confined. To separate from the State and reform herself seemed the Church's only course, and this reform by her own hands was surely preferable to reform by strangers and aliens. In discussing next the advantages of the repeal of the union, Mr. Clark argued that the Church would then be self-governing; her officers, appointed no longer from personal interests or for political reward, would be chosen for their special fitness for their work, and her representatives would meet together, not as a form, but as a real executive. The Church's voice would be heard, and her wants made known. She would become more elastic, and would adapt herself to the special exigencies of the times. Her endowments could be adjusted, and the dense poor population of large towns would secure more ministerial supervision, and obtain larger means of worship than the miserable and unchristian pew-rent system now doled out to them; the churchyards would be preserved, and all attempts to convert them into public cemeteries would end. Mr. Clark then dealt with the objections urged against the proposed disestablishment. It was asserted that the State would abandon religion, and cease to be Christian; but she practically did this when she removed the barriers set up by the test acts, and allowed members of every creed to sit in her councils. It was said that a National Church at least secured the membership of the head of the State. Speaking, however, with profound respect and loyalty of the present head of the State, he must say that love for the episcopacy could not be very strong when its form of worship was so easily discarded and an opposite one embraced when leaving England's soil. Nor did our Church's services appear to be appreciated by Royalty when, at stated intervals, other forms offered up in an unconsecrated building were preferred. The presence of the bishops in the Upper House of Parliament was urged, because it could not fail to shed a religious influence over its deliberations and to advance the interests of the Church; but what had the members of the episcopate, as spiritual peers, really done to support the Establishment? In the division on the bill determining the fate of the Irish Church thirteen bishops voted against and two in favour of the measure, the larger half of their body, by their votes or their absence, thus deserting their sister Church in her severest hour of trial. Their presence in Parliament was regarded by Nonconformists as a mark of the dominant supremacy of the State Church, and it was felt that their time might be more usefully occupied in their own overgrown dioceses. In answer to the argument that if disestablished the Church would split into a hundred sections, and that the event would be a flood of schism, he remarked that such disintegration did not take place in the colonies, in almost every one of which the Church was free and flourishing. Nor would the clergy lose prestige or social caste; in fact, in America they enjoyed a higher position than the other sects. In conclusion, Mr. Clark said that the retirement of the Church from the State could not make matters worse than they were; and her duty and interests alike demanded that she should seek a change from State support to self-support.

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## THE UNIVERSITY TESTS QUESTION.

It is known that, as the House of Lords did not last Session avail itself of the opportunity of passing a limited measure for abolishing ecclesiastical tests in the national Universities, Nonconformists have had a strong opinion that, when the Bill is again submitted to Parliament, it should include the abolition of the clerical fellowships. Mr. Gladstone was, therefore, lately asked to receive a deputation from various Nonconformist bodies, in order that their views on the subject might be placed before the Government; but, in reply, he expressed a wish for a private conversation with a small number of gentlemen, rather than an interview with a large deputation.

He was accordingly waited upon, on Wednesday last, by Mr. Miall, M.P., Mr. Carvell Williams and Mr. H. M. Bompas, as representing the Liberation Society, and by Mr. Aldis, M.A., and Mr. Neville Goodman, M.A., on behalf of the Cambridge Association for the Removal of Religious Disabilities from the Universities; and the matter was fully gone into.

As the reply of the Government has not yet been received, we do not feel at liberty to give particulars of what transpired at the interview; but the practical issue can, we think, be anticipated. We believe that the Government are anxious to get the Bill of last Session passed into law in the early part of the Session, and that, for that purpose, they will think it impolitic to alter its character by introducing new provisions. On the other hand, those who represent Nonconformist views in the House of Commons will feel themselves at liberty to support any proposal relating to the fellowships which may be made in committee on the Bill, and to avail themselves of the opportunity for stating both the equitable and the moral grounds on which they will hereafter insist on the abolition of the obligation to enter into "holy orders" as a means of obtaining college fellowships.

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On Friday evening week, a meeting was held in the Lecture Room of the Temperance Hall, Leicester, in furtherance of the Abolition of University Tests. There was a large attendance. The Mayor (J. Stafford, Esq.) presided, and in introducing the lecturer, expressed his entire sympathy with the object of the meeting. He read a letter he had received from the Rev. D. J. Vaughan (Vicar of St. Martin's), who was unable to be present, but expressed general approval of the object of the meeting. He (Mr. Vaughan) had not studied the question sufficiently to enable him to express an opinion on the bill for the abolition of University tests brought forward by the Solicitor-General last session, but both for the sake of the Church and of Nonconformity, he was exceedingly anxious that the Universities should be made thoroughly national institutions. He felt persuaded that could be done without any detriment to their religious character.

Mr. W. S. ALDIS proceed to deliver an address on the subject of University tests. In the University of London there were happily no such thing as tests; in the other three, Oxford, Cambridge, and Durham, stringent religious tests at present existed. The object they had in view was to remove those tests from those three Universities. Any visitor to Oxford or Cambridge would be struck with the somewhat long streets and a number of very fine, and in some cases imposing buildings, with a scholastic air about them that impressed the beholder with the idea that there was a great deal of very hard and possibly successful study done in them. These buildings were colleges, of which Cambridge had sixteen or seventeen, and Oxford rather more. Each of these separate institutions had its own governing body and teachers, and its own revenues, entirely subject to its own control. The offices in those colleges were for the most part for the private instruction of young men, of whom Cambridge had somewhat about 1,500 or 2,000, and Oxford about the same number. The officers in the colleges who gave instruction to the young men, were almost exclusively derived from young men who had at a former period derived their instruction from their predecessors; in that way the teaching staff of the college was continually recruited from those who derived instruction in them. Each member of the governing body of those colleges derived a considerable income from the revenues of that institution, and in almost all cases under the present statute he was compelled to be a bachelor, and was called a "fellow." He was a gentleman of authority, and his income amounted to something like 300*l.* a year, if he did nothing: it was a reward for previous work; in addition to which sum he received a stipend equal in amount for work actually done in the teaching and management of the college. Besides those emoluments there were a number of prizes to be given to undergraduates in the shape of scholarships, which at once gave a young man of talent an income of 50*l.* a year, to help him through his college course. In addition to the college buildings at Cambridge, there was a senate-house, where the University held its degree examinations. The University was a distinct thing from the colleges; it was a sort of amalgamation of the colleges. Something in the same way as the United States included an assemblage of States. As a matter of fact, all University officers were chosen from college officers, and of course whatever test a college officer had to submit to was virtually the test a University officer had to submit to. Those Universities were granted by law the privilege of granting degrees. They had royal charters of ancient date, by means of which degrees which admitted men to the profession—say of law or medicine—after a shorter period of probation than any one who had not obtained one of those degrees. Those Universities received their charters from the highest authorities in the land, not from private benefactors; and they had been ratified from time to time by Act of Parliament. As regarded the Universities, as distinct from colleges, he might say that there were scarcely now any differences of opinion as to their being national institutions. In the case of the colleges, there was a certain amount of distinction to be made; these had been largely endowed at various times—before the Reformation almost entirely—by private benefactors. He suspected that the great object to the removal of the tests laws was this, that the colleges were private property, and that therefore they ought not to be interfered with; but he maintained that the statutes of these colleges had been altered again and again by Parliament; and therefore they were not asking for a new thing in asking for the abolition of the existing tests. By the Act of Uniformity of Charles II., every fellow of every college in the Universities was required on his election to conform to the religion of the Church of England as by law established; not by the will of the founders; consequently the Nonconformists were entirely excluded from becoming fellows, and the whole of the offices in the colleges and Universities were entirely restricted to members of the Church of England. The only case in which now-a-days a man was prevented from exercising the political franchise on account of his religious opinions, was that of the Nonconforming graduates of the Universities of Cambridge and Oxford. Those Universities sent to Parliament two members a piece, and that, if there were no other, was a tolerably good proof that they were national institutions, and if they were national, why should not he, a Nonconformist—who had passed every possible test that a Churchman would be required to pass, except as regarded his religious principles—be allowed to vote for representatives of a national University in a national Parliament? As a matter of fact it came to this, that no one but Episcopalians could have a share in the management or teaching of the colleges, except in the University of London. It was that state of things they wished to alter. They said they were national institutions, and that all peaceable and loyal citizens ought to have a full share in the management and teaching of those institutions. They said those tests ought to be abolished, first because they acted with very great injustice to Nonconformists generally, but more directly so as regarded those Nonconformists who were at the Universities. He knew a young man connected with an influential gentlemen in Leicester—who was in this kind of position. Some years ago he took a very high position in the mathematical tripos list, and if he had been a Churchman would within a few months of taking his degree have entered upon enjoyment of an income of about 300*l.* a year, which he could have kept on from that day to this—but because he would not conform to the liturgy of the Church of England he had not received a penny. If it was an injustice to gentleman in that position it was no less, though perhaps not so directly, an injustice to every Nonconformist in England. If none of them ever intended to go to the University or send their sons there, they must feel lowered to a certain extent by knowing that not one of them could ever be a fellow of the college of Oxford or Cambridge, or assume a position in the teaching body of the greatest institutions of the land. It was a serious grievance to Nonconformists, therefore, and all fair-minded Churchmen, many of whom would share that grievance with them. It was also a serious detriment to the Universities themselves. The speaker illustrated this point by stating that a gentleman who had been excluded from the Universities in question by the religious tests, and had risen to eminence in the University of Dublin, was now at the head of one of the Baptist Colleges, and on the revision committee for the Old Testament. Probably, if the tests had been abolished, the University of Oxford and Cambridge would have claimed that gentleman. As a further illustration of the ill effects of these tests on the colleges themselves, he stated that the University of Cambridge was obliged to go to the London University to get a gentleman competent to teach the former University physiology; whereas, the probability was that if there had been no test that gentleman would have been a member of Oxford or Cambridge University. He believed the tests were a great injury to the Universities, and Non-

conformists were not the only persons who believed that; not much more than a year ago, a memorial was signed in Cambridge by, he believed, an actual majority of persons engaged in teaching graduates of the University and Colleges, in favour of the total abolition of religious tests. Did they think those persons, elected under a monopoly, would seek to destroy it (considering that some of them might not occupy the position they did if it were destroyed), if they did not think it was a deadly injury to the University in which they lived? Only two months ago the governing body of Trinity College, Cambridge, met together, and by a large majority passed a resolution empowering the masters and senior fellows to take what steps were necessary in order to abrogate from the College statutes all religious restrictions whatever. (Hear, hear.) The speaker then went on to argue that the religious tests enforced at the Universities were injurious to the education of the whole country, and contrary to the spirit in which the Educational Bill of last session was framed. Then, he said, it was stated those tests were necessary in the interests of religion. If he believed so he would not touch the tests, but he did not believe for one moment that they were necessary to religion. He believed they were the greatest curse religion had in this country—nothing had done so much to undermine public morality, or pure and true religion, as religious tests in the Universities and elsewhere. Mr. Aldis then proceeded to descant on the varied types of theology taught at the college chapels at the present time, and the small modicum of real religion obtained during a student's course at either of the colleges he had spoken of; and, after referring to the various bills introduced in the House of Commons with a view to extending the benefits of the Universities to all persons, irrespective of their religious opinions, he expressed a hope that public opinion would be so aroused, that Government would be induced to bring in a bill of a satisfactory character next session, and carry it to a successful issue.

The Rev. Dr. HAYCROFT moved the following resolution:—

That this meeting regards with great satisfaction the continued efforts made in Parliament to secure the nationalisation of the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, and Durham, by the removal of those religious tests, which practically limit the use of them to one party in the State.

This meeting regrets the failure of the scheme of University reform, which last session received the sanction of Government and of the House of Commons, and is of opinion that no settlement of the question can be final which does not further put an end to the necessity of taking orders as the condition of holding any office or emolument in the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, or Durham, and the Colleges thereof respectively.

That this meeting heartily approves and sympathises with the efforts now being made by the University Tests Abolition Society for the guidance and advance of public opinion on the question.

Mr. G. STEVENSON seconded the resolution.

The Rev. A. A. ISAACS, being called upon to address the meeting, said nothing would be more in harmony with his own feelings and opinion than the extension of the advantages of the Universities to all classes. He believed there would then be gathered in them men who, by their talents, would be able to raise the Universities in the estimation of the country. For this reason he looked upon that meeting as a move in the right direction. He would ask Mr. Aldis, however, if he had come prepared with statistics showing the nature of the endowments of the various colleges. He believed that if those statistics were produced, it would be found that no single college existed which had not been built and endowed by private individuals.

Mr. ALDIS replied that he had not a large roll of figures with him that night. His own, Trinity College, was founded by Henry VIII. It was mainly founded by the spoils of a certain number of ecclesiastical houses in different parts of the country.

The Rev. R. HARLEY said he had pleasure in moving—

That a memorial to Her Majesty's Government be drawn, embodying the resolutions just passed, that His Worship the Mayor be requested to sign it on behalf of this meeting, and that it be transmitted to the Right Honourable W. E. Gladstone before the meeting of Parliament.

Mr. G. TOLLER seconded the adoption of the memorial.

The Rev. A. MACDONALD supported the resolution. He considered that the Universities should be thrown open to all classes of the people. In Scotland, where he received his education, there was none of this miserable test system, and he thought the English people might with advantage learn a lesson or two in this respect from that country. He was satisfied that the spirit of the age was with them, and that it would not longer be permitted that Nonconformist ministers should first of all be excluded from the Universities, and then be taunted because they were unlearned.

The Rev. J. KER expressed his belief that by opening the Universities to all classes, a much better feeling would exist among the clergy of different religions; besides which, it would stimulate education throughout the whole of the country. He had great pleasure in proposing a vote of thanks to the deputation, the Mr. W. S. Aldis.

In submitting the vote to the meeting, the CHAIRMAN said Mr. Aldis was the second Nonconformist senior wrangler since the time of the Commonwealth. —Carried with acclamation.

Mr. ALDIS briefly acknowledged the vote, and proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman for presiding.

The CHAIRMAN briefly replied, and the proceedings terminated.

## THE LATE DEAN OF CANTERBURY.

At the interment of the remains of the late Dean Alford on Tuesday, last week, nearly every public institution in Canterbury was closed. The service in the cathedral was very imposing. One of the pall-bearers was the Rev. Dr. Stoughton. The procession afterwards passed through the main thoroughfare of the city to the ancient church dedicated to St. Martin, where the burial service was read by Archdeacon Harrison, and the coffin, containing the body of the lamented Dean, lowered into a plain brick grave in the churchyard. At the termination of the ceremony, one of the late Dean's hymns was sung, and the proceedings ended by the Archdeacon pronouncing the Divine blessing. The coffin, which was made of oak, with gilt furniture, bore the following inscription:—"Henry Alford, Dean of Canterbury, born in London 7th of October, 1810, died 12th of January, 1871." The clergy and friends of the late Dean who followed numbered about 200, and the body of the laity included in this number was headed by the Rev. Newman Hall and several other Dissenting ministers. After the coffin had been lowered, Mrs. Alford, who with her two daughters attended the funeral, scattered some choice flowers into the grave of her late husband.

The life and death of the late Dean of Canterbury formed the subject of a sermon preached last Tuesday night to a crowded congregation by the Rev. John Stoughton, the well-known Congregationalist minister of Kensington. After the first lesson the well-known "To Thee, O Lord, I yield my spirit," from "St. Paul," was sung as an anthem, and before the sermon, a hymn written by the Dean, "Lo, the storms of life are breaking." The preacher spoke of Dr. Alford as a Christian man, a clergyman, a Biblical critic, and a Church reformer. He remarked that although he was not identified with the Evangelical party, no one had a greater love of Evangelical truth. He would not attempt any critical estimate of his labours as a Greek scholar, but he thought there was a general conviction among the best judges that his New Testament was the most complete and the most useful which had been published. The efforts of Dr. Alford to promote "the reunion of Christendom in its home aspects," resulting, as they had, in the movement lately initiated for exchange of pulpits between Anglican clergyman and Dissenting ministers, were warmly eulogised. With regard to the last-named movement, Mr. Stoughton said though it was opposed by some Dissenters as well as Churchmen, it had its own best wishes and strongest sympathies. It was incidentally stated that Dr. Alford had left on record a presentiment that he should not live through this winter.

The Baptist Board, at its monthly meeting on the 17th instant, unanimously adopted the following resolution:—"That this board, recognising the great loss which the Church of Christ at large has sustained in the sudden death of the Very Reverend Henry Alford, D.D., Dean of Canterbury, cannot refrain from expressing its high estimation of the great service he has rendered to Biblical interpretation, his Catholic-hearted efforts to secure religious equality, both as regards national education and ecclesiastical polity, and above all, his generous and long-sustained endeavours to promote Christian unity."

Only a few days before his death Dean Alford revised the proof sheets of his recent Advent Sermons (including the one preached before the Queen), which will be issued immediately in a small volume by Messrs. Hodder and Stoughton, entitled, "Truth and Trust: Lessons of the War."

*Apropos* of the funeral of the respected Dean, the *Daily News* asks:—"What is a 'layman'? We are led to ask this question because the *Guardian*, in describing the funeral of Dean Alford, remarks that the laity who attended the funeral were headed by Mr. Newman Hall and other Dissenting ministers. We had always supposed that, if not in law yet in usage and courtesy, the difference between layman and cleric consisted in their avocations. The layman we had thought to be the man who gives himself up to lay pursuits; the cleric, he who follows a religious calling. Such is not the opinion of the *Guardian*. A Dissenting minister is, we imagine, in our contemporary's estimation, not 'reverend' in any sense of the word. The assumption is almost enough to raise the Dean from his new-made grave. It was one of the great objects of his life to bring about a working union between the Dissenting clergy and those of the English Church. The first at all events reciprocated his desire, and testified to the sincerity of their grief at his death by attending him to his last resting-place. To deny to them the title which courtesy extends to all ministers of religion, is not to act in his spirit."

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THE VACANT DEANERY.—Dr. Hook declines the Deanery of Canterbury.

FATHER HYACINTHE.—A correspondent informs the *Church Times* that Père Hyacinthe has determined, on account of the new dogma, to retire from the priesthood of the Roman Church. Great efforts are being made by the Irvingites to get hold of him.

PAPAL INFALLIBILITY.—Of the nine Professors of the Roman Catholic theological faculty at Munich, six have declared for Infallibility, and three against it. In the majority there are two whose consent has been given conditionally.

THE CIVIL POWER AND THE STATE CHURCH.—A petition to the Archbishop and Bishops of the province of Canterbury in Convocation assembled is in course of signature by a number of priests of the Church of England, declaring that they are unable consistently with their duty to God and the Church to acknowledge the authority in spiritual matters of the Judicial Committee of Privy Council, and praying their lordships of the Upper and the reverend the clergy of the Lower House to shield the Church from such unconstitutional interference of the civil power in questions belonging to spiritual jurisdiction.

MARRIAGE FESTIVITIES IN LENT.—It seems to us, says the *John Bull*, now, that Churchmen should speak out at once, and that in no faltering tones, and convince the Queen that there is a widely-extended feeling that a Royal marriage in Lent, without great and urgent necessity, is a scandal to the Christianity of England, and makes the duty of the clergy in inculcating its observance on their people apparently at least incompatible with that fulness of loyalty which they all desire to inculcate and to exercise. If from some false motive as to the meaning alike of true charity and loyalty, or, owing to the many divisions among Churchmen themselves, nothing is done, while discontent and disloyalty rage uncontrolled, we may be sure that another nail—and that no unimportant one—will have been placed in the coffin of the Establishment.

MR. GLADSTONE AND THE POPE.—In consequence of Mr. Gladstone's celebrated letter to the Pope, Mr. Kinnaird, M.P., and Mr. Thomas Chambers, M.P., sent a communication to the Premier, which resulted in an interview. The following correspondence subsequently ensued:—

2, Pall Mall East, Jan. 19, 1871.

My dear Gladstone,—With reference to our interview about your letter to Mr. Dease, am I right in distinctly understanding from you, that the expressions used by you were in no wise intended to pledge the Government to do anything to mix itself up in any manner with the Pope's spiritual power, but were merely designed to express their readiness, should any restraint be placed upon his person and personal acts by the civil power, contrary to the principles of complete civil and religious liberty, to represent this personal grievance to the Italian Government, especially bearing in mind that so many millions of British subjects are interested in him through their religious connection with him?

Ever yours most truly,
A. KINNAIRD.

To the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P.

11, Carlton House-terrace, Jan. 9, 1871.

My dear Kinnaird,—You have quite accurately understood those expressions in my letter to Mr. Dease to which you refer.

With many thanks, sincerely yours,
W. E. GLADSTONE.

Hon. A. KinnairJ, M.P.

The *John Bull* understands that on the meeting of Parliament the Scotch supporters of Mr. Gladstone will demand an explanation of his letter about the Pope's spiritual authority.

THE BISHOP OF MANCHESTER ON CHURCH DISCIPLINE.—On Wednesday, on the occasion of reopening the organ at St. Andrew's Church, Ashton-upon-Ribble, near Preston, the Bishop of Manchester preached the sermon. His lordship said he did not know whether English Churchmen very often read the preface to their Prayer-book, but they could not read a document fuller of wisdom and instruction. The purpose of the compilers of the Liturgy of the Church of England was "not to gratify the unreasonable demands of any particular party"—High Church, Low Church, or Broad Church—but to set forth the public worship of God in a reverent spirit. They did not prescribe the law for other Churches, but for the edification of their own Church; they did not say "these ceremonials are bound to be observed for evermore"—they said they might be altered, changed, or abolished, as the 34th Article declared. It was perfectly true that they were bound up by the Act of Uniformity, which seemed to contradict that great principle. But, for instance, the fourteenth century could not be an adequate exponent of the mind of the nineteenth century; and many things which might probably be right and proper in the reign of Charles II. could not be so in the reign of Victoria. He imagined that every clergyman who was really conscientious in the discharge of his duty must often have felt himself more or less hampered by that Act of Uniformity, which prohibited him from using the Prayer-book in any other way than that laid down. He thought there was a general wish to see these bonds relaxed, so that a clergyman could go forth with his Bible and Prayer-book and "compel the people" to come into the Church. They wanted more freedom and elasticity, and less form.

CHURCH REFORM.—A conference, called by the Chairman and Council of the Church Reform Union, was held on Friday evening at the rooms of the Social Science Association, to discuss the giving of legal powers for the formation of Church Councils in parishes. The chair was taken by the Right Hon. W. Cowper-Temple, M.P., Chairman of the Union. The right hon. gentleman, in opening the proceedings, said it would be cruel to bind all congregations to the same minute and rigid rule; and representation—such as Church Councils in parishes, elected annually as churchwardens were—appeared to be the best way of meeting the difficulty. The powers of the council should deal with the services of the Church, regulating the kind of ornaments to be used, &c., and the members might in other ways be useful to the incumbent. There were many objections, of course; but they were not to be compared to the advantages which would accrue generally to the Church. At a time like this, when there was a general opinion amongst the laity that they ought to belong to a Church where they had some responsibility beyond mere submission, it was especially desirable to discuss this question. Papers were read by Mr. Salt, M.P., and the Rev. W. H. Freemantle. The first-named gentleman referred to the widespread dissatisfaction which existed between the clergy and

laity of the English Church. A rector, he said, was a corporation in himself, and in him was vested not only the parsonage-house and glebe, but the parish church and the churchyard; and in this position he was almost unassailable, even if guilty of the gravest offences. The theory upon which the clergy system was based was a false one, because it proceeded from the erroneous idea that the clergy alone constituted the Church. Nothing ought to be done without the co-operation of the laity, and the Christian Church, where there was nothing but clergy, was an anomaly and almost misnomer. The hon. member advocated the giving of legal powers for the formation of Church Councils in every parish. Mr. Freemantle in an earnest paper argued three main principles—1st. The necessity of the powers of councils being legally bestowed; 2nd. The necessity of such powers being as large as possible, the Church still being governed by general laws; and 3rd. The necessity of the restrictions upon the parishioners being as few as possible. Various gentlemen continued the discussion, and Sir Antonio Brady narrated the perfect success of the voluntary councils which already existed in the diocese of Rochester. Lord Ebury also spoke.

## Religious and Denominational News.

### DEDICATION OF A CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH IN MADAGASCAR.

In a letter to the *English Independent* the Rev. W. Pool gives an interesting account of the dedication of the Amparibo Church at Antananarivo, the capital, in presence of the Queen and Court. He writes:—

We have just passed another great day in the history of Malagasy Christianity, the engagements of which we trust will not be soon forgotten. At sunrise on Thursday, October 6th, the royal flag was hoisted on the top of the large palace, the royal guard of honour were mustered, the whole city of Antananarivo was astir, all intimating that the Queen was about to inaugurate some important undertaking, and give the sanction of her presence to something she believed to be for her people's good. She was about to attend the dedicatory service in the new sanctuary erected for the use of the oldest congregation in the capital. This place of worship has called forth, perhaps, more liberality on the part of the native congregation than has hitherto been manifested, arising from the fact that they are numerically strong, with several influential men connected with them. At the commencement of the undertaking a severe check was experienced, in consequence of some eleven of those among them possessing intelligence and station being mixed up in the mistaken, sorry attempt to place one of their number on the throne at the commencement of the present dynasty. These men had from the first encouraged the project and evinced a thorough interest in its accomplishment; doubtless but for the disastrous consequences of their attempted insurrection they would have given of their property and labour to the completion of the edifice. Were the church disheartened? Oh, no; cast down indeed they were, and their faithful friend and minister, the Rev. W. E. Cousins, had to console and encourage them in their depression. Disheartened, indeed!—not they; they resolved that as God had mercifully kept them amid so great a danger, that as their wives, children, and property had thus been secured to them—not confiscated, as were those of their erring brethen—they would consent to no abridgement in the plan as originally proposed, and resolved to give labour and money in acknowledgment of the one sustaining and restraining Providence by which their comforts were continued. They resolved, and one yard after another was purchased, until a space sufficient for their new sanctuary was secured near to the one they have just left. Help from unexpected quarters seconded their efforts, the Prime Minister himself being among the subscribers. The Chief Judge helped their proceedings; and at length the surplus soil, a considerable portion of which was twenty feet in depth, was removed, and an excellent site secured for the building. Thus encouraged, they determined to increase the length and width of the building, notwithstanding some weighty remonstrances were urged. They have now the largest church in the capital, its inside measurement being ninety-three feet by forty-one. These people were first prompted by my personal friend, Mrs. Booth, whose generosity to the Bible Society, the City Mission, and the Bible Women, is so well known. Her letters, full of Christian love, told me many times how deep was her interest in the Madagascar Mission, and especially in the erection of this, the Amparibo Church; she longed and prayed for its completion, but the Master called her home to His rest quite unexpectedly. The anxious state of both minister and people were relieved by Mrs. Booth's kind sister, Miss Usborne, kindly undertaking to complete all her deceased sister had promised, so that the church might rise to her memory. To this generous friend I suggested a tablet to keep alive the name and kindness of the departed one. She replied, "Place the text, 'Unto Him that hath loved us,' in a prominent place if you can do so, as the best expression of what would have been my deceased sister's wish, and I will give you a good harmonium as a memorial of her." Under these circumstances the church has been built, and it is dedicated, with many prayers, "*to Him that hath loved us.*"

Precisely at seven o'clock in the morning before alluded to, the Queen, accompanied by the Prime Minister and a numerous retinue, left the palace in procession, surrounded by the military, headed by their band, with singing men and women following. The route was lined with spectators viewing from elevated ground or from the yards which surround the residences, presenting in their snow-white lambas quite a picturesque appearance. In the neighbourhood of the church an immense crowd had gathered, so that it was difficult for the nobles who walked in advance of the royal *cortége* to pass. The procession was of considerable length and well marshalled, as are all such demonstrations in the capital. At the entrance to the ground, and extending to the north doors of the church, large branches of the rofia palm and plantains had been raised, so as to give additional *éclat* to the scene. The crush was so great as the Queen arrived, that it was difficult for the Prime Minister as Commander-in-Chief to get his orders obeyed. The Queen is supposed to enter a new building first. She was met at the doors by some of the missionaries and their ladies, and proceeded at once to the temporary gallery erected for her and the Prime Minister, the Queen seating herself beneath an ornamental canopy, covered with scarlet cloth, lace, and gold braid. The Court attendants then took their seats in the gallery behind the preacher, which they completely filled. The singers, numbering some one hundred and eighty, were then admitted through the minister's vestry, and the doors were thrown open to the public. The large building was speedily filled in every part, including class-room and minister's vestry. All the mission families, including those recently arrived, were present.

When the great congregation were seated, the dedicatory service was commenced by the Rev. W. E. Cousins announcing a hymn. This was contrary to precedent here, and the alteration was made at the Queen's special request, who objected to the National Anthem being sung, until all had joined in a song of praise to God, and sought His blessing. Prayer was offered by a native pastor, after which the National Anthem was sung to appropriate words. The Prime Minister then rose, and in a neat speech expressed to the Queen the pleasure of her subjects at the completion, so far, of that house of prayer. He then paid the dollar of allegiance, customary on such occasions, to which the Queen replied, telling the people what pleasure she felt in being present. A statement in reference to the building, by Andriambelo, followed. The usual service was then commenced. It consisted of the dedicatory prayer by the Rev. B. Briggs; a sermon and two prayers by native pastors; and a sermon by the Rev. J. Pearse; the Rev. P. G. Peake closing with the benediction.

The singing was well spoken of, especially the beautiful tune written by Prince Albert, called Christmas Hymn, the transition in which seemed very correctly executed. The new organ-toned harmonium did good service. It is quite sufficient in power for the church. This may perhaps guide some friend who is anxious to send a similar one to a memorial church here.

The same order of service was observed in the afternoon, omitting the preliminary legal form and the dedicatory prayer. The Rev. G. Cousins preached; and the minister of the place, the Rev. W. E. Cousins, closed the engagements of the day with the benediction. I ought to have said that the sermon by a native in the afternoon was delivered by Ravoninahitriniarivo, one of the most influential members of the Government. The Court were not present. It was my privilege to see the church filled in every corner, including the class-room, on the following Sabbath; and my heart rejoiced that the prospects of increased usefulness to the congregation and their devoted minister here were so encouraging.

The Ambohitantely and Ankadibevava churches, with the central school, and Faliarivo preaching station, are ready to receive their roof timbers; the spire to the Chapel Royal is within twelve feet of completion. When this is complete I have promise of masons for the fourth memorial church. At present the Queen's and the Prime Minister's work engrosses all of them; we therefore act on the principle of pushing that which will move.

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The Rev. Thomas Poole, of Hornsea, Yorkshire, has accepted a unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the Congregational Church, Lymington, Hants.

PRESBYTERIAN SPECIAL SERVICES.—We are glad to know that the arrangements for a week of special services in London in connection with the Presbytery of the English Presbyterian Church are about completed. There will be for five evenings daily meetings at five churches—Regent-square, Islington, Marylebone, Belgravia, and Stepney—at each of which three addresses will be delivered. We hope and believe that the attendance will be large, and that these meetings will be a means of great blessing. —*Weekly Review.*

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.—The annual statistical returns issued by the Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States show, in 1870, 1,173,099 members in full connection, and 194,035 members on probation; 13,373 churches and 4,179 parsonages; 8 bishops, 9,193 travelling preachers, 11,404 local preachers; 1,221,398 Sunday-scholars. The estimated value of the church edifices is 52,614,591 dols., and of the parsonages 7,293,513 dols. There were 116,934 baptisms in the year, 66,481 of them adult baptisms. The benevolent collections in the year amounted to 967,862 dols. All these figures are considerably larger than those of 1869.

CLAPHAM.—The Rev. J. G. Rogers, B.A., having completed the fifth year of his pastorate of the Clapham Congregational Church, and the twenty-fifth of his ministerial life, the deacons and other friends recently took advantage of the opportunity presented by the annual *soirée* of the congregation to give a practical proof of the love and esteem in which Mr. Rogers is held by them by handing to him a cheque for 323*l.*, which had been subscribed during the preceding week. Besides the erection of a large lecture-hall, and other rooms used for Sunday-school purposes, a mission-hall has been built by the church in Wandsworth-road. In the two places there are now under actual instruction every Sunday over 700 children. A Bible-woman and an evangelist are supported by the congregation, and their labours have been attended with highly gratifying results. It was stated, moreover, that the membership of the church had more than doubled during Mr. Rogers's pastorate.

ENGLISH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, CARMARTHEN.—On Thursday, the 12th instant, the members of the English Congregational Church held a tea-meeting to celebrate the total liquidation of the debt on their chapel during the past year. The chair was occupied by the Rev. Professor Morgan, who, having to leave before the termination of the meeting, was succeeded by Mr. D. Lewis. From a statement made, it appears that the foundation-stone of this beautiful little church was laid in 1861, by Mr. H. O. Wills, of Bristol, and that it was opened for Divine worship in the following year, the officiating ministers being the Revs. Henry Allon, Newman Hall, and Caleb Morris. The total cost of the building, land, &c., was 2,360*l.*, and of this sum scarcely more than one thousand pounds was collected up to the time of opening. The congregation have, therefore, in an interval of about eight years, contrived, in addition to the cost of maintaining public worship, to wipe off a debt of 1,350*l.* During last year, inclusive of 50*l.* generously subscribed by Mr. S. Morley, M.P., they collected towards this object the handsome sum of 480*l.*, the last instalment of their liabilities. The members of the congregation deserve great credit for the result they have already attained.

## Correspondence.

### A CHINESE PAMPHLET—GROSS CARICATURE OF CHRISTIANITY.

*To the Editor of the Nonconformist.*

SIR,—I received a few days ago a pamphlet published in Shanghai, in August, 1870, some account of which I imagine will be of interest to your readers. It is a translation from the Chinese, and bears the title, "Death-blow to Corrupt Doctrines. A Plain Statement of Facts. Published by the Gentry and People." From the preface of the translators—apparently missionaries in Tungchow—I draw the following particulars regarding the Chinese original.

The author or authors are unknown; even the date and place of publication are not mentioned; but it is printed in good style; it has been compiled and written by some one of first-class literary abilities; every facility of access to public documents, especially to the attacks on foreigners and Christianity that have been issued in China, has been enjoyed; and the writers or promoters must occupy no mean position in the Chinese Government, for they are able to secure its distribution throughout the country by means of mandarins or their underlings.

The publication is obviously designed to be an attack on Christianity, and Christian or Western nations in general. A superficial glance at it might lead one to suppose that it was directed solely against Roman Catholics; and there is no doubt that they have been mainly in view. Indeed, it is largely compiled from works that were written against the Jesuits as long ago as the 17th century. In point of fact, however, it has been used and quoted against Protestants as well as against Catholics, and both are expressly treated as essentially the same. "It is explicitly stated that the distinction made between them is a mere pretence or subterfuge, devised for the purpose of avoiding the obloquy which the previous history of that religion has brought upon itself. It is furthermore notorious that the masses of the people know no distinction. They class all Europeans together, and regard their religion as one."

The work is positively known to have been circulated in three districts and two departmental cities; and there is reason to believe that it has been extensively distributed in the North of China. "At Laichowfu the book is well-known, and it is currently reported that copies were given by the magistrate to the petty local officers, with orders to pass them round for the school teachers and principal men of the villages to read and then to return them to the 'Yamun,' taking care that none should fall into the hands of the Christians. In Ping-tu they were circulated freely, and (as it is believed by the people) through the Mandarins, so that most of the villages have a copy. The Christians there have been continually assailed by quotations from it, and on several occasions have been confronted with it in public discussions at the market. Special stress has been uniformly laid by those quoting it, on the fact that it is distributed by the mandarins, and is without doubt authentic. In every instance in which it has been heard of the parties possessing it, have asserted that it was obtained from the 'Yamun.' The copy from which this translation is made came from the 'Yamun' of Chi-hia. It was given to one of the native Christians by a friend in the 'Yamun,' in the hope that it would convince him of his error, and induce him to forsake the foreign religion. Though heard of in every direction, only one other copy has come into the possession of the Christians owing to the fact that all who get it are strictly charged not to let the Christians have it."

The book is so full of the vilest obscenities, say the translators, that some may either think it improper to publish it in an English version, or fancy that it must refute itself, and therefore deserve no notice. But they reply by referring to the extreme ignorance of the Chinese about everything relating to foreigners, and to the ready credulity with which they drink in such stories as are here presented to them. They think that those who know the Chinese cannot doubt that nearly all who read the book will believe every word of it. Accordingly, considerable political significance attaches to it. It is an important sign of the times. "Not only does it show in a vivid light the real animus of those who have arrayed themselves against foreigners, but reveals

their purposes and plans, and exposes the diabolical arts by which they seek to manufacture a public sentiment that will be ready for deeds of violence and blood."

I should think it not unlikely that the pamphlet may have had something to do with the massacres at Tientsin. But I will now go on to give you a taste or two of the contents, so far as your space and decency will permit.

The book opens with an extract from the "Sacred Edict" relating to the suppression of strange religions for the purpose of exalting orthodox doctrine. This said edict was written by two of the canonised Emperors of the present dynasty, and is held in the greatest reverence by the Chinese. In 1670 the Emperor Kang-hi published a hortatory edict, in sixteen sections of seven words each; and in 1724 his son, Yung-cheng, issued an amplification thereof, consisting of sixteen lectures on the sixteen tenets of his father. These lectures, with the themes on which they were written, constitute the "Sacred Edict." One of these chapters is made use of as an introduction to the book for the purpose of giving it the highest sanction.

Then follows a long list of the authorities consulted, printed in Chinese, some of whose titles are, however, translated. Among them are such as the following:—"True source of all things"; "Advantages of Holy words"; "Truth its own evidence"; "Elements of heavenly knowledge"; "Truth of God."

Afterwards comes what is termed "A Collection of Facts Respecting the False Religion of T'ien-Chun," meaning Christianity.

About Christianity the Chinese author tells his fellow-countrymen the following things:—

1. It originated with Jesus, whose adherents assert that He possessed Divine gifts. He was able to speak various languages, and at the outset exhorted men to be virtuous; but was afterwards nailed to the cross. His followers fabricated an artful book, which they call a revelation from heaven.

2. The religion has two general names, Baptism and the Holy Supper. Its subordinate diversions are twenty-five; its head-quarters are in Italy; and it has a succession of Kings of the Church who assume to give instruction on behalf of heaven. Every seventh day Mass is performed; and, after the various prayers and ceremonies are concluded, the congregations give themselves up to indiscriminate sexual intercourse. This they term the "Great Communion," or the "Love-gathering."

3. Marriages are contracted without go-betweens; but the bride is required to spend the first night with the religious teacher. When a father dies his son may marry his mother. When a son dies a father may marry his daughter-in-law. A man may also marry his own daughter. They marry the widows of deceased brothers, uncles, or nephews. They also marry their own sisters. Women are regarded as superior, men as inferior. From the King down to the people, all are subject to the authority of their wives. It is a common thing for a wife to drive away her husband and seek another. They say men are born of women; therefore many of their kingdoms are governed by queens.

4. In social intercourse the highest sign of respect is to pluck out hair from the forehead and throw it on the ground. When friends meet they inquire about each other's wives, but never about parents. Brothers and friends seldom see each other; but when they meet they give themselves up to licentious intercourse. This they call "reunion of original elements." The people of England and France "have an outward show of gentility, but their hearts are full of deceit. Their appearance is such as easily to deceive."

5. The followers of this religion are assured of ascending to heaven and escaping hell; and that whatever they ask for they are sure to obtain. By such assertions they excite the cupidity of the ignorant. They all discourse of seeking heaven and avoiding hell; those who follow their instructions become their abject slaves; and the harm which they accomplish by their unrestrained lawlessness far exceeds what we have ever known before.

6. When a person enters this religion the teacher gives him four ounces of silver and a pill. Having taken this latter, his whole mind becomes confused; he destroys his ancestral tablets and worships henceforth the image of a naked child, called Prince Jesus.

7. In case of funerals, the religious teachers eject all relatives and friends from the house, and the corpse is put into the coffin with closed doors. Both eyes are then secretly taken out, and the orifices are sealed up with plasters. The reason of this is as follows—and remarkable enough too!—"From one hundred pounds of Chinese lead can be extracted eight pounds of silver, and the remaining ninety-two pounds of lead can be sold at the original cost. But the only way to obtain this silver is by compounding the lead with the eyes of Chinamen. The eyes of foreigners are of no use for this purpose. The method of obtaining this silver, however, has never been revealed by any of the native Christians."

8. The worst of all, however, we are told, is that they are able to impart a magical power to water; and to take captive the spirits of living persons for the purpose of holding licentious intercourse with them:—this they call "spiritual intercourse." By obtaining the hair and nail-pairings of women, and placing them under the bedmat, the power is acquired of compelling their presence.

These are as many samples as I can venture to adduce; the rest are too abominable for reprint. The pamphlet contains further various miscellaneous quotations from writers and public records confirmatory of the charges advanced in the text; and a copy of a petition sent from Hunan some ten years ago for the expulsion of the non-human species, or Roman Catholics.

I cannot help thinking, with the translators of this strange production, that it is well for us to know what is said and thought about us by the people with whom we trade and whom we seek to convert. After reading the very excellent letters of Mr. John, I for one must confess that we deserve more of the hatred and malice embodied in the above pamphlet than we should at first be willing to allow; and, judging by the scandalous uproars to which the ignorant among ourselves can be excited against "Liberationists" by our clerical mandarins, we may well believe that the circulation of descriptions and accusations like those I have adduced, may very possibly be fraught with terrible dangers to foreigners of all ranks and professions residing in China.

Yours, &c.,

L. T.

## UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

FIRST LL.B. EXAMINATION.—PASS LIST.

*First Division.*—Joseph William Comyns Carr, private study; Sydney Cozens-Hardy, private tuition; William Douglas Edwards, private study; Thomas Jesson, private study; David Brynmôr Jones, private study; John Gilbert Kotzé, Dr. Lyell's Chambers; George Litting, B.A., private study; William Thomas Rogers, private study; Charles Sweet, private study.

*Second Division.*—Hyman Nathaniel Benjamin, University College and private tuition; Samuel William Casserley, private study; Pope Alexander Cooper, B.A., Sydney, University of Sydney; Charles Swinfen Eady, private study; Wilson Lloyd Fox, private study; Evan Evans Francis Griffiths, University College; William Ebenezer Grigsby, Balliol College, Oxford; Edgar Lubbock, private study; Herbert Thomas Round, B.A., private study; Sydney Style, private tuition; Warren Williams Arrowsmith Tree, private study; Charles Wallace, private study; Sydney Edward Williams, private study; Walter Young, University College.

SECOND LL.B. EXAMINATION.—PASS LIST.

*First Division.*—James Bourne Benson, B.A., University College; Seward William Brice, M.A., University College; Frederick William Groves, M.A., King's College; Frederick Thomas Medcalfe, private study.

*Second Division.*—Frederick George Carey, private study; James Cholmondeley Kaufmann, University College; Reginald Thomas Hall Lucas, Lincoln College, Oxford, and private study; John Mason Williams, private tuition and study.

## Court, Official, and Personal News.

It is stated on authority that the Queen will open Parliament in person on the 9th February if Her Majesty's health will permit.

The Earl and Countess of Derby have been visiting the Queen at Osborne.

The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell arrived at Osborne on Saturday, and had the honour of dining with the Queen and the Royal family.

It is stated that Birkhall, near Ballater, on the estate of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, is not unlikely to be the autumn residence of the Marquis of Lorne and the Princess Louise. Birkhall is about nine miles from Balmoral and six from Abergeldie.

The date of the Royal marriage is not yet settled. It will probably be deferred in deference to High Church prejudices relative to Lent.

The *Times* of Thursday announced that Mr. Childers had resigned, and expressed a belief that Mr. Forster would become First Lord of the Admiralty, while Mr. Stansfeld would succeed to the Ministry of Education, with a seat in the Cabinet. The statement was promptly and authoritatively denied. It is now announced that Mr. Childers is better, and that he will continue to retain office; taking, however, for a limited period, complete respite from work, in order to establish a thorough restoration to health.

Mr. Bright will be unable to attend the meeting of his constituents next Monday. He is, however, willing to resign his seat, and offers to do so. It is said that a strong resolution will be proposed at the meeting refusing to entertain such a proposal, and expressive of sympathy with the right hon. gentleman.

The Address in reply to the Queen's Speech will be moved in the House of Lords by the Marquis of Westminster, and seconded by the Earl of Rosebery.

The *Manchester Examiner* is informed that Mr. Bright has received an autograph letter from the Queen, expressing Her Majesty's regret at receiving his resignation as a member of the Cabinet, condoling with him on the state of his health, and expressing Her Majesty's hope that she may see the right hon. gentleman ere long as a guest at one of the Royal palaces.

The marriage of Mr. Algernon Sheridan, son of Mr. Richard Brinsley Sheridan, to Miss Mary Lothrop Motley, second daughter of the late American Minister, was celebrated on Wednesday, at Frampton, in Dorsetshire.

It is said the ex-King of Hanover is going to settle in London; and there is a rumour that a marriage is being arranged between one of his daughters and an English prince.

The wife of Mr. Elisha S. Robinson, of Bristol, died last week. Mrs. Robinson, during her husband's Mayoralty (says a local paper), endeared herself to numbers by her kind-heartedness. Her loss, we need hardly say, will be severely felt in her domestic and in friendly circles.

Sir William Denison died on Thursday morning He was brother of the Speaker of the House of Commons, of Archdeacon Denison, and of the late Bishop of Salisbury. He was a man of remarkable energy, and possessed great administrative abilities. He had occupied many high appointments in the Colonies.

Sir George Hayter, Principal Painter in Ordinary to Her Majesty, has just died at the age of seventy-eight.

The death of the Countess of Durham, at a comparatively early age, will place many noble families in mourning.

## IRELAND.

A statement reaches us (*Pall Mall Gazette*) from Ireland that Acts of Parliament relating to railways, harbours, steam companies, drainage works, town improvements, and other matters in Ireland, having received the fiat of the Lord-Lieutenant, are, in future, to pass into law without investigation or discussion in London, and with a mere formal assent at the hands of Parliament, interference on the part of Scotch or English members being expressly prevented. This concession, to which Mr. Heron, M.P. for Tipperary, is said to have been mainly instrumental in inclining the Government, is based professedly on considerations of economy and local convenience. Great importance is, however, attached to it by the Irish Nationalist party, who see in the impending transfer to the Irish side of the Channel of control over private Acts of Parliament the relinquishment by the Imperial Legislature, at no distant date, of control over public Acts of Parliament; in other words, a step towards the revival of a native Parliament in College-green.

Mr. Davis, a farmer, residing three miles from Forfora, was shot in his bed on Wednesday night. The shot was fired through the window. Several slugs, consisting of pieces of broken pot, struck his head, inflicting many wounds. His wife was nursing two children, and was so terrified that she did not seek assistance until the following morning. Very slight hopes are entertained of his recovery. He was some time since appointed bailiff on Mr. Evans's estate.

On Monday morning Mr. Blagriff, residing at Glasson, about three miles from Athlone, was driving from his own residence to Athlone fair, when he was fired at from behind a ditch. The shot missed, and Mr. Blagriff drove on quickly. The intending assassin followed and fired again, the shot this time knocking off the hat of the servant who was on the near side of the carriage. A third shot was fired, but also missed. The outrage is attributed to an ejectment brought against a tenant at last quarter sessions, but not proceed with.

The Dublin *Evening Mail*, referring to the state of Westmeath, says the reign of terror in Ireland has been narrowed to that county, and the persons who maintain the Ribbon system are well known. The name of its captain is commonly mentioned, and gentlemen, and even magistrates of the county, have preferred to negotiate a separate peace with the Ribbon dynasty, and persons who had been for some time under police protection have withdrawn themselves from it, thinking it better to pay black-mail to Ribbon organisation.

One of the most determined opponents of the Land Bill, on the ground of its inadequacy to meet the requirements of the country, Mr. Bolster, president of the most influential of the Munster Farmers' Clubs, has had the candour to admit that he is a convert to the belief that it will work beneficially for the tenants.

The "Home Government" party are making great exertions in Dublin to render a dinner which is proposed to be given to Mr. John Martin, M.P., a success. The committee which has the matter in charge is composed chiefly of members of that society, and embraces several Conservatives of local note. The 6th of February is the day named for this "National" demonstration.

The Irish "Nationalist" papers appear to be at a loss for a telling topic just now. They have accordingly taken as their text the probability of a Prussian invasion of England, and the advantages to be expected from such a contingency by Ireland. "We have no doubt," says the *Irishman*, "of the will of the Germans to make their attempt at invasion, but it will rest with Britain whether, by her policy towards Ireland and France, she can so strengthen herself as to be able to thrust back her German foe."

On Monday Viscount Newry was elected without opposition for the borough which bears his name. It was thought that a Liberal candidate would at the last moment be proposed, but such was not the case.

THE NEW STAMP ACT.—An influential deputation of City gentlemen waited on Mr. Lowe, on Thursday, to express their dissatisfaction with the new Stamp Act, chiefly in relation of new liability to foreign, and particularly to American Bonds. The Chancellor of the Exchequer said if the deputation would consider what alteration of the law was desirable, he should be glad to have their matured opinion, and, if possible, act upon it. But while transactions in British property were liable to be taxed, he would like to hear a satisfactory reason why foreign property should be exempt.

# THE WAR.

## ANOTHER SORTIE FROM PARIS.

A despatch from Versailles to the *Times*, dated Thursday, Jan. 19, says:—"A great sortie was made to-day from Paris against the Crown Prince's army, with large masses of troops. The attack was against Malmaison, Montretout, and St. Cloud, with a view to get to Versailles and cut the communications. The attempt was defeated, but the French are still outside Fort Valérien, on the plateau, in strong force, and the action may be renewed to-morrow." The attack lasted from 11 a.m. till darkness set in. The Prussian loss was twenty officers and 200 men. The French troops had rations for several days, and entirely withdrew into Paris on Friday.

The news from Paris indicates that this sortie was the greatest effort of the kind that has been made, and that it ended in the completest failure. It was executed, as we learn on official authority, with at least 100,000 men, Line, Mobiles, and National Guards taking part in it, supported by 300 guns. The aim of General Trochu—who commanded in person, committing the Governorship of Paris temporarily to General Le Flô—was to occupy the line of heights extending from Garches to Buzanval and Jonchere. Paris had been led to expect that this great outbreak would certainly be successful, and the people gave up the day to waiting and watching for the issue. Every eminence that gave a chance of a view of the country towards St. Cloud was occupied with spectators, and the avenues leading from the Arch of Triumph to Boulogne, Courbevoie, and the northern suburb, were thronged with quiet but excited groups, in which women and children predominated, expecting the return of the orderlies who might bring word how the fight went, or of the ambulances that might bring back their victims. On the evening of Thursday General Trochu left the Louvre for the citadel of Mont Valérien. The operations were entrusted to three different corps d'armée, under the commands respectively of Generals Vinoy, Bellemarre, and Ducrot, all of whom spent the night at Mont Valérien. To Vinoy was confided the conduct of the attack on the left, which was to directed on Montretout; to Bellemarre that on the centre, starting from Courbevoie to the right rear from Mont Valérien, as seen from Paris and to Ducrot that on the right, towards Rueil. The line of front did not extend four English miles across. The morning of the 19th was darkened by a thick fog. The advance had been arranged to commence at six, but owing to unavoidable delays from this cause, and the unexpected opposition to the march of the column of the right, it was retarded for several hours later. The troops carried four days' provisions. An eye-witness states that the men looked haggard when they went out, but their officers were fine-spirited men. The French pushed on until they came to positions where they were shot down in heaps by the Prussians, safe behind their trenches. A Parisian law-student belonging to the 116th National Guards declares that the Prussians did not show their heads over the line of a work against which his corps was sent but to fire or *make grimaces* at the French. "The only one I saw was a fellow that put his fingers to his nose for me." Ducrot appears to have been unable to take up his position at the appointed time. His troops were afoot at three in the morning, but the road by which they had to pass, that by Nanterre and Rueil, was swept by a Prussian battery at the Quarries of St. Denis as with a besom. They could not face the fire, and although their passage was ultimately finally secured by a cuirassed locomotive sent on by the St. Germain line, the delay had marred the operation. The German reserves and artillery had time to come up, and their guns overpowered those of the French. The first report, issued by General Trochu at 10 a.m. dwelt on the difficulties of the enterprise. It said that the work of concentration had been very difficult and laborious during a dark night, and that a delay of two hours of the right column had taken place. A long and vigorous combat had raged round the redoubt of Montretout. The Bellemarre column had penetrated into the park of Buzenval, and occupied the chateau and heights of Buzenval. At six General Trochu reported that the battle had lasted since morning, extending from Montretout to the left, to the ravine of Celle St. Cloud to the right. General Vinoy to the left held Montretout, and was fighting. At Garches, Generals Bellemarre and Ducrot had attacked the platform of La Bergerie, and had been fighting for some hours at the Château de Buzenval. The governor, however, did not know as yet the definitive result of the day. At half-past six the sortie had failed. General Trochu's final report, if it was intended to have any justificatory character, is an exceedingly feeble production. After remarking that the day, which opened successfully, did not terminate with all the advantages that could be desired, he explains that "the enemy was surprised in the morning, but subsequently concentrated large masses of artillery with infantry reserves, and the French left had to give way."

On Thursday night the Germans retook Montretout. On Sunday a *parlementaire* arrived from Paris with a demand for an armistice to bury dead and gather wounded. Two days were asked for. Count Von Moltke refused peremptorily, but a verbal answer was given that the commandants of the outposts, as in every previous engagement on the space between the two lines, have come to an understanding that every wounded soldier should be carried off in safety with mutual assistance.

## THE BOMBARDMENT OF THE PARIS FORTS.

The German northern batteries have commenced the bombardment of St. Denis, and the French fire was almost silent on Sunday. In St. Denis, and also in Paris, several fires have been observed.

A battery has been constructed at 800 paces from Fort Issy. Four batteries have been built on the heights of Bougival, Vaucresson, and La Bergerie, opposite Mont Valérien.

New German batteries have been opened within 800 yards of the South Forts.

Up to the 14th—that is, during the first ten days of the bombardment—1,800 grenades had been thrown into the interior of Paris. Five hundred burst near the Panthéon.

The *Times* correspondent at Versailles says:—"The King will not hear of an assault. That would involve great loss of life. Therefore, Paris must yield to bombardment and investment. The Engineers do not believe in bombardment without advances and assault. Famine is an agency to be appreciated only by the statesmen and generals in council. When the artillery placed in certain positions by engineers has done its work, engineers only understand the further results *secundum artem* of assault. These further results are not to be expected now, because no assault will be made."

Two companies of French were marched out from Drancy, on the morning of the 20th, to retake Groslay. They proceeded until they arrived close to it. Then they suddenly halted. The officers were seen addressing them, and, sword in hand, gesticulating them to come on. There was a pause for a minute or two, after which the two companies turned tail and ran backwards towards Drancy. The officers stood, shouted after them, and violently brandished their swords in alternate encouragement and menace, but all to no purpose. Their men would not follow them, and the gallant gentlemen were obliged to give up the undertaking. It is believed that the troops were Moblots.

## INSIDE PARIS.

### AFTER THE SORTIE.

The following is the impression caused in Paris by the unsuccessful sortie on the 19th:—"The city is much cast down and full of sorrow, and great dissatisfaction is felt at General Trochu having confined his endeavours to a simple sortie when it was believed that he would march to Versailles. The fact, also, that the greater portion of the artillery and reserves were not employed is also blamed, as well as the half measures and temporising policy of the general."

Private letters which have arrived at Brussels from Paris by the latest balloon give details of the last meeting of the Council of National Defence. A very lively opposition to Trochu was displayed. The cause assigned for this attitude was his apparently inactive line of conduct. Everything was done to induce the Governor to initiate sorties on a grand scale. This proposition, however, Trochu rejected for the moment with the greatest energy, and refused to submit to any interference with his command. The meeting was very stormy. Picard is even reported to have said that they had overthrown the personal power of the Bonapartes to substitute in its place another Cæsar. Trochu offered to resign and to take the simple grade of a general of division. The Council appointed to succeed him a triumvirate, composed of Generals Vinoy, Frebault, and Clément Thomas. The Council, however, on reconsideration, recoiled before the responsibility of overthrowing all the plans of the defence, and ultimately Trochu was maintained in full authority. Deputations from the bombarded quarters of the city have waited upon M. Jules Favre, and requested him to go and carry their protest before the Conference at London. The Minister replied that he could not do so at the present moment, but that he hoped that soon the situation of Paris would permit him to go and represent France abroad. These words produced a great sensation.

*Le Siècle* says of Trochu:—"He ought to conquer. If he succumb there will not fail accusing voices to say that he is a traitor. But such condemnations belong only to history."

Paris letters by balloon have been received dated the 20th inst. The suffering among the poorer classes, especially women and children, was daily increasing, yet the spirit of the population was kept up by false news. An official census gives the population of Paris in December, including refugees, at 2,005,709, exclusive of the army, the Garde Mobile, and the sailors. Great difficulty was being experienced in grinding the corn. About fifteen persons daily were killed through the bombardment.

Whatever (says the *Times* correspondent in Paris) may be General Trochu's fitness for the post of Governor of Paris, there can be but one opinion as to his utter incapacity as Commander-in-Chief. The Parisian eyes are open to this at last. No one knows exactly with whom lies the blame of Thursday's defeat, nor do the depressed, despairing people care much to inquire; the evil being irreparable, it is but lost labour to seek who was the cause of it. Generals Ducrot, Vinoy, or Le Flo might, perhaps, do a little better, but something more than that is wanted to extricate Paris from its embarrassing position. That something more will not, I fear, be forthcoming, so we must wait the end resignedly.

The terrible reverse (writes the correspondent of the *Telegraph*) experienced on Thursday by the French troops at Buzanval—the discouraging influence exerted on the long-suffering women of Paris by a *rationnement* of bread which assigns to each individual as his or her daily portion a black and gritty lump of the so-called staff of life which, in size and weight, is about equal to a London penny roll—the acknowledged incapacity of our military and political chiefs—the depressing hopelessness of the despatches respecting Bourbaki and Chanzy which were made public this and yesterday morning—all plainly presage the end very near at hand.

People (the *Daily News* correspondent remarks) are very excited. The excitement will wreak its fury on somebody or other. But I do not think they have any intention of surrender. What the incapacity of some of the Ministers may lead them to it is impossible to conjecture; but all the aim of the people at present is to avoid surrender and hold out to the last. If they have confidence in their leaders, they will dare anything, submit to anything. If they have no such confidence, we shall have a bad time of it in Paris very soon.

Writing on the 20th, the correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* says:—"To-day Paris is in a state of feverish agitation, and groups of citizens discuss the situation, and crowd round the isolated soldiers who are plentifully scattered through the city. The men of the National Guard appear exhausted with fatigue, and some of them were quite unable to answer the questions addressed to them as they trudged wearily home. This evening some of the war companies have marched back to Paris in formation, their bugles ringing merrily out; but Paris is in a depressed condition, and on all sides one hears that this state of affairs cannot last. Looking at General Trochu's note it seems hardly probable that another attack in force will be made, but still a large body of troops is concentrated round Creteil, and having failed to the west, the Governor may make another effort to the east."

Military men here (says the *Times* correspondent with the Saxons at Le Vert Galant) are of opinion that General Trochu himself has not the least faith in these small night sorties. He orders them because he is obliged to do so. We constantly have skirmishes between the opposite patrols. Of what possible use can those be? Last night again there was one for the hundredth time, but, like all by which it was preceded, it had no result. Of the *ausfall* on the south side yesterday we know little. You will hear all about from another source; but I may remark that, while everything is kept in steadiness for the resistance of any great sortie which may be made on this line, the universal impression here is that, during the remainder of the struggle preceding the fall of Paris, the interest of the siege will not centre itself in this direction. St. Denis can be attacked from the north; but the bombardment of the capital itself is from the south, and little doubt is entertained that many of the guns in the forts on this side have been taken away to oppose the guns that are shelling Paris.

It is conjectured that the French troops in the sortie of Thursday thought of cutting their way through and escaping beyond the German lines, on account of the quantity of food which the men carried in their knapsacks.

### RESULTS OF SHELLING PARIS.

The "Besieged Resident" of the *Daily News*, writing on the 16th, says that the area of the bombardment is slightly extending, and, it is presumed, will soon reach the right bank of the Seine. More people are killed in the daytime than at night, because, notwithstanding all warning, they stand in groups looking at any house that has been damaged.

The correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* writing on the 12th says:—

In an elaborate estimate inserted in the *Opinion Nationale* last night, M. Barral, one of our ablest statisticians, computes that the Prussians have already rained upon Paris projectiles which it must have taken from eighteen to twenty enormous railroad trains to convey to the French capital. And what, it will be asked, has been the result of this iron hailstorm on the enervated and enfeebled inhabitants of this modern Babylon? Speaking only of the attitude which hitherto Paris has worn, I should say that the bombardment which we have sustained has in the first instance awakened curiosity and excited surprise, and in the second a passionate outburst of anger, resentment, and defiance. It is impossible to be blind to the fact that the women show even more ferocity and courage than the men. We are all puzzled how to interpret and explain the motive and object of the Prussian bombardment. But if it be their intention to weaken the resistance and undermine the obduracy of this so-called luxurious and Sybarite capital, I can only say that they are as much out in their calculation as they were when they reckoned upon *la guerre des rues*, and internal dissensions, as likely to open our gates and make us welcome Prussian sentinels to guard us against Blanqui and Flourens, and the turbulent *émeutiers* of Belleville and La Charonne. It must not be imagined that the shells have been but few and intermittent. I have passed many hours to-day in the neighbourhood of the Panthéon and Luxembourg, of the Quartier Latin and the Jardin des Plantes. On all sides the tremendous and crushing effects of the Prussian projectiles meet your gaze.

Traces of the damage inflicted by the shells were most abundant in the Rue d'Alésia, and the other streets which surround the new Church of Montrouge on the Avenue d'Orléans. But it was impossible to walk far in the neighbourhood of the Luxembourg Garden, of the Panthéon, or the Observatory, without coming across a thousand evidences of the shattering and crushing storm of metal with which, during several preceding nights, the air had been thickly charged. Writing on the 15th, the same correspondent says:—

After the heavy cannonading which occurred on the night of the 8th hundreds—or, I might say, thousands—of persons proceeded to *déménager*, and to transfer themselves and many of their chattels from the left to the right bank of the Seine. Should the Prussian shells reach the Madeleine, or the Place Vendome, or the Boulevard Sebastopol, they will find a swarm of human

beings huddled together in the neighbourhood of any spot where they chance to strike. Hitherto, Paris has endured with stoical and proved courage the ordeal of a bombardment which has reached seven or eight out of her twenty arrondissements; but should all, or nearly all, of the twenty come under fire, the real pinch will begin; and, for my own part, I should not be surprised to see the area under the shells greatly extended before the end of the week which commences to-day—the eighteenth week of the siege.

A correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, writing from Paris on the 16th, says:—

The journals are full of incidents, more or less veracious, respecting the damage done by the enemy's projectiles. Yesterday a paper announced that a shell had fallen into a monastery in the Rue Oudinot, and had killed ten children, "whose palpitating flesh was pasted against the walls of the dormitory." The fact was that a shell fell in the garden where sixteen brothers were cutting down some trees, burst, and wounded no one. A projectile which exploded in the Rue Soufflot was not so merciful, as it killed five men on the spot. A shell, said a poor old soul to me yesterday, fell through the roof of St. Sulpice while the priest was officiating; no one was hurt, but the curé begged the faithful to depart, and he remained at his post pacing up and down the aisle like a sea captain pacing his deck. The following statistics of the bombardment show that the damage done to Paris has been remarkably small, considering the number of projectiles thrown into the city. On the night of the 5th the Prussians commenced to fire into the quarters on the left bank of the Seine. Twenty-six houses were seriously damaged, five persons were killed, and five wounded; the next night there were four people killed and six wounded; on the night of the 7th, two killed, thirteen wounded; on that of the 8th, twenty-two killed and thirty-seven wounded; and the next night twelve killed and thirty-six wounded. Since that date the number of accidents has decreased, and, in fact, from the beginning of the bombardment up to the 13th—or in eight nights—only fifty-one persons were killed and 138 wounded; thirty-nine children, fifty-seven women, and ninety-three men have been victims of this little bit of barbarity on the part of the Emperor William, who directly he heard of one of his generals having fired on the town of Strasbourg instead of the works, appeared rather indignant, and ordered a change in the direction of the siege pieces.

If Paris did not suffer much from bombardment yesterday, the Germans made up for lost time when it became dark, and it was remarked that the shells were thrown rather farther into the city than on the preceding night; but whether this arises from an extra charge of powder or from the enemy's batteries having been pushed nearer in, does not appear. In the Rue Daubenton a large new house was struck yesterday morning, and an enormous block of stone dashed into a room on third floor; both stone and shell made their way right through the house into the concierge's room, where half-a-dozen people were at breakfast, and, strange to say, no one was hurt. Very little loss of life appears to have been inflicted yesterday, but in revenge the Pantheon has at last been hit and a hole perforated in its dome. The Sorbonne has also been struck for the second time, and I hear that a projectile has actually had the impudence to fall into the Rue de Jerusalem on the Prefecture of Police, where it was at once arrested.

The same writer, on the 20th, says:—"The Panthéon has certainly come in for its share of *obuses;* the dome is injured, the walls are literally covered with marks, the railings which separate it from the street are in many places broken. I was, however, agreeably surprised to find that this was the extent of the damage, for from the newspapers, and even from persons who professed to have visited it, I had learned that the dome was pierced in several places. I can discover but one place where there is the sign of a shell having fallen, and even there it did not penetrate into the buildings. At the corner of Rue Saint Jacques and Boulevard Port Royal there are several houses which are rendered uninhabitable: every window is blown out, the roof smashed in, and the walls pierced in three separate places—in fact, a large proportion of the houses in this immediate neighbourhood have suffered. It was here more especially that I noticed the quick step of the occasional passers-by."

THE FOOD QUESTION.

The Paris correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* writing on the 20th says:—"I must say a few words upon the rationing of bread which came into force yesterday—each person above the age of five years is allowed 300 grammes, or about one-third of a pound; under that age half the quantity. People have scarcely had time to complain, nevertheless I have heard many remark that the Government has not kept its engagement with the people; a short time since, to put an end to the bread panic, it assured the population that bread should not be rationed. Once more it will be neither the rich nor the very poor who will suffer the most; the rich can still procure what is necessary, and the poor are provided for by soup, wine, coffee, meat, &c., &c., which are distributed to them every day; but what is to become of the family not poor enough, or too proud perhaps, to accept charity, whose principal food has been bread? According to this system a person is supposed to live upon one pennyworth of bread and one pennyworth of horseflesh per day; it certainly is not dear, but utterly insufficient. If these middle-class households could procure rice and vegetables at a reasonable price there would be no reason to complain, but potatoes are 75c. each, and at that price very small—little larger than walnuts. Other vegetables cost in proportion. Rice almost in powder, 1f. 25c. per lb.; a little better quality, 1f. 50c. per lb.; tapioca, inferior quality, 1f. per lb.; sugar, 1f. 50c. per lb. Naturally, this class begins to find the siege very long."

Another Paris correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, writing on the 20th, says:—"The question of food is the great question, and I am happy to say that, in spite of the insane talk of the bourgeois, who say we must hold out till our last crust is eaten, our rulers are impressed with the fearful responsibility they would incur by running matters too close with two millions and a half to feed. Trochu, Jules Simon, and Picard, at any rate, understand this. The only fear is that, if the military operations fail, power may slip out of the hands of our comparatively moderate Government into those of patriots who ignore all economical laws. There has been no day, no hour since Sedan, when it would not have been desirable for France to conclude peace, and now the time is near when it must be done.

Not only (says a letter from Paris of the 20th) are we placed on short rations of bread, three-fifths of a pound, but that little is bad, and in other places besides Belleville hay is said to be mixed with the rye, barley, rice, and wheat which are its component parts. The bread is not popular; neither is the offer made by the Government of 25f. to informers for every quintal of flour they may discover, nor the order issued that all apartments whose inhabitants went into the country before the siege shall be searched for food and fuel. It must be remembered that the Maire of Paris before the commencement of the siege implored all old men, women, and children to take their departure, and when the gates were closed the maire levied a tax of 25 per cent. on the amount of their rent, not as a punishment, but for the protection afforded to their property during their absence. After a blockade of four months the left bank of the Seine was bombarded, and another maire has opened these protected apartments to the refugees. M. Edmond About is very hard upon this legislation. The rich feel annoyed, but the suffering among the poor classes where there are children is dreadful, and of course the mortality is increasing every week. Next week we shall most likely find it over 4,000 persons.

"Our stock of food is very low. Bread, largely mixed with oats, rice, rye, and bran, is allowanced —300 grammes a head per diem for adults (a little over half a pound. Horse-meat, eighty grammes for three days per person (a little over half a quarter of a pound). For those who can add nothing from their private stock this is quite insufficient. There is nothing to buy for the ordinary run of purchasers, though there are still a few preserved tins at exorbitant prices. Potatoes are at thirty francs a boisseau, or twelve and a half litres. Onions cost six francs a litre."

## DEFEAT OF THE FRENCH IN THE EAST.

General Bourbaki has failed in his enterprise of raising the siege of Belfort and breaking the German communications on the Paris and Strasbourg railway. On three successive days he attempted to storm the lines constructed to cover the siege of Belfort. But the strength of the Prussian entrenchments and the tenacity of the Germans proved too much for the powers of the raw French troops. The Emperor-King has sent the following despatch to the Empress-Queen:—"General Bourbaki, after three days' fighting, has withdrawn before the heroic resistance of General Werder, to whom, as well as to his valiant soldiers, the highest acknowledgments are due. General Werder maintained his entrenched position, which was strengthened by heavy batteries, and repulsed all attacks. Our loss in the three days' fighting was 1,200 men." Werder had but one division against three French ones. Bourbaki found it necessary to retreat, the state of the weather being his excuse. It is evident that the ex-commander of the Imperial Guard has no confidence in his troops. In spite of the bad weather, General Werder was able to follow Bourbaki on the 18th, and on the 19th he stated that his vanguard was pursuing the enemy along the whole line.

Whether Bourbaki retreated southward towards Switzerland, or westward, is not clear, but reinforcements were being sent to him from Lyons. Meanwhile the siege of Belfort is being vigorously pressed.

It is reported from Saarbruck that the 2nd Army Corps, under General Franksecky, has left Versailles for Dijon, in order either to surround General Bourbaki's army, or to drive it across the Swiss frontier *à la* Sedan. There is reason to believe that manœuvres of the most important character are being made by Manteuffel in the direction of his line of retreat.

M. Gambetta has published at Lille a brillant account of a glorious victory won by Garibaldians on the 22nd (according to the telegram), near Dijon. The Germans were put to flight, and in their haste abandoned a large quantity of material and prisoners, and at the date of the latest accounts were being pursued. The author of this statement is the Inspector of Telegraphs at Dijon.

Avallon, which was attacked by 4,000 Germans on Tuesday, is nearly thirty miles south-east of Auxerre. This attack, and the subsequent eastward march of the corps, shows that the Germans have no anxiety as to anything that the French corps left at Bourges and Nevers can accomplish. A general advance of the Germans southward is expected.

Speaking of Bourbaki's defeat the *Daily News* says:—

Under any circumstances, the defeat and retreat of General Bourbaki's army would have been a serious misfortune for France, but coming immediately after the decisive victory won by the Germans over Chanzy, it is a disaster. Each of the Armies of the Loire represented immense and long-sustained efforts on the part of the military administration of France; and on each successively the hopes of France have hung. To have raised the siege of Belfort would have been to revive the confidence of the whole population of eastern France, and might have led to a popular rising in the Departments of Haute Saone, Doubs, and Haut-Rhin, before which the German armies would have been powerless, while the victorious French columns marched on the line of the Eastern Railroad, and cut off the communications of the invader with Germany. But for this purpose the French army should have been a hard and well-tempered instrument, capable of piercing and shattering the solid German battalions, instead of which it seems to have shared the defects of all the existing armies of France. It has been outmarched as well as out-fought; the favourable moment was allowed to go by, while the enemy, apprised of its designs, was able to concentrate his forces to avert them. The defeat of Bourbaki is the defeat of the whole French force in the east of France, for to his enterprise every company that General Cremer or the Garibaldians could furnish for that purpose was pledged.

Intelligence from Dijon states that the operations of Garibaldi, which had begun happily in the departments of Yonne and Cote d'Or, are for the moment suspended, in consequence of Bourbaki's retreat.

On the 21st, detachments of the German army of the South, after a slight engagement occupied Dole, and captured 230 railway wagons, laden with provisions, forage, and clothing. On the 22nd the railway bridge over the Mosalle, between Nancy and Toul, was blown up by a band of Francs-tireurs.

## DEFEAT OF THE FRENCH ARMY OF THE NORTH.

The Army of the North has sustained a disastrous defeat at St. Quentin. General Faidherbe had decided, after much hesitation, to make a movement by his left rather than on Amiens, in hope possibly to separate Goeben from Krenski's force at Longwy and at least relieve the latter place. With this view he moved eastward across the chord of the arc of the Somme, running between St. Quentin and Péronne, drove some Prussian detachments ont of his way to the former place, and surprised a post of Jagers there. But the obvious danger to Krenski, or possibly orders from Versailles, have suddenly urged Goeben to resume the offensive. He crossed the Somme, at the lower part of the bend, and moved north-eastward against the flank and rear of Faidherbe, who turned about to take up his favourite defensive attitude in a good position just outside St. Quentin, and to the west of the town. Here Goeben, coming up on Thursday morning, attacked him sharply, and before dark the French were driven through the town with much loss of prisoners and guns. The event is thus described in a telegram from the Emperor William to the Empress:—

VERSAILLES, JAN. 20.—General von Goeben yesterday evening, after the storming of the railway-station by the 19th Regiment, occupied St. Quentin with a Division under Prince Albrecht the Younger, and a brigade of the 8th Corps. He is pursuing the routed enemy to-day towards the North and East. At St. Quentin the number of unwounded prisoners amounts to 9,000. Two thousand wounded were also taker in the town, besides the killed in the neighbourhood, so that the enemy's loss certainly amounts to 15,000. The enemy has retreated to Valenciennes and Douai, and has again occupied Cambrai.

It seems that Goeben was assisted by some of the Saxon troops before Paris under General Count Lippe. In its diary of the war the *Daily News* gives the following details:—"Faidherbe's army is shattered, and at the latest dates was entering Lille, where, if the Germans choose to pursue it so far, it may be surrounded and shut up. Faidherbe prepared his own defeat by forming his line south and south-west of St. Quentin across an unbridged canal. The two portions of his army were thus severally attacked by strong columns of the enemy without being able to render each other the least aid. The Germans again made a most energetic use of their artillery, which was always at the place where it was wanted. For a few hours the 22nd French Corps, which contains a large proportion of regular troops, appears to have fought very fairly until it was ordered to retreat; but the 23rd Corps, which is composed for the most part of Mobiles and Mobilised Guards, gave way, and their retreat became a rout. A French officer who arrived at Lille on Saturday from the army states that the retreat was at first conducted with the greatest order, but shortly after the Prussian batteries showed themselves upon the heights commanding the French positions, and opened full fire upon them. The French columns 'at first hastened their steps to get out of the way of the guns; but the effect of the firing was such as to compel them to run, so as to be able to re-form further on, which they did not without considerable loss.' The French line of retreat lay through the town of St. Quentin; but the Prussians bombarded the place while they were marching through the streets, and then, storming the railway-station, entered the town and pursued them. A Versailles telegram of Friday's date states that by that time Von Goeben had made 10,000 prisoners and captured ten guns. The first orders for the French retreat were given for Cambrai, but the Prussians pressed on so hard, their guns having opened fire upon the defences of Cambrai on Friday, that the retreating corps marched upon Douai, and thence upon Lille. The lattter town was reached on Saturday, the men arriving in a most pitiable condition, ragged and footsore, many of them without shoes. The 22nd and 23rd Corps thus reached the military capital of the North of France, but the division of General Robin is said to be missing. Perhaps its locality is indicated in another telegram which states that 'a corps of 15,000 Mobilised National Guards had arrived at Cateau,' a town fifteen miles south-east of Cambrai, 'in a miserable condition.' The greatest anxiety is reported to prevail in all the towns in the North of France from which messages have been received. At Cambrai there was a general panic, as the town had been abandoned by the army relied on for its defence.

This place, although described by Lavalée as a stronghold with a good citadel and works, could not long resist bombardment. The neighbourhood of Valenciennes has been inundated to keep off the Prussians, and a great number of its inhabitants have fled to Mons. For the moment the whole military defence of the Northern departments is disorganised. It appears that Von Goeben was specially reinforced for this battle. Our correspondent with the Army of the Crown Prince of Saxony states that a brigade was sent towards St. Quentin by railway to strengthen the First Army, and we learn from the Crown Prince of Saxony's telegram that his cavalry, a regiment of Jagers, and a battery, also joined Von Goeben. Advices from Lille state that Faidherbe is re-forming his army, as doubtless he is endeavouring to do; but, according to all experience, it will be a long time before he is again ready to take the field."

Telegrams from Brussels state that the bombardment of Cambrai had commenced on Monday. M. Gambetta has promoted Colonel Isnard, the hero of the specious French attack on St. Quentin which preceded Von Goeben's victory. Faidherbe has issued an order of the day, thanking his soldiers, who he says have proved that the Germans are not invincible. He corroborates the previous accounts, and says he lost no artillery, his only losses being in men wounded and stragglers. He did not lose a single prisoner on the field of battle. The General concludes his report by stating that he will soon resume operations. A letter from Douai comments on the shameful want of provision made for the troops. When the 17th Chasseurs got out of the train at Douai some of them fell down in utter exhaustion. They were all footsore, and many of them had no boots. They had had no food but dry bread, and one a basin of soup, during two days. By Thursday night, numbers of soldiers of Faidherbe's army had been thirty-six hours without food or soup. According to German advices, the French Army of the North has fled to Arras, Lille, and Douai in a complete state of dissolution and thoroughly discouraged.

The bombardment of Longwy is kept up day and night from heavy siege batteries, and the fortress replies but feebly. The non-combatant portion of the population having been sent away, the defence is being conducted with unusual tenacity.

## M. GAMBETTA IN THE NORTH.

M. Gambetta arrived at Lille at two on Saturday afternoon. He delivered a speech from the balcony of the Prefecture, in the course of which he was greatly cheered. He advocated resistance to the bitter end, and energetically condemned the partisans of peace at any price. He denounced before the public opinion of France the tactics of those who take advantage of partial checks to declare the continuance of the war impossible and endeavour to bring about peace by a surprise. He, moreover, protested against any idea of dictatorship, and said that all Frenchmen must do their duty in the name of French unity and the French Revolution. M. Gambetta concluded his speech by asserting that if France prosecuted the war, even though she suffered defeats, the ruin of the enemy and the final success of France were certain.

Yesterday the Minister is said to have received "innumerable deputations." He made what the telegram calls a splendid speech, in which he declared that France would rather keep up an eternal war than allow herself to be mutilated. This sentiment was received with enthusiastic applause.

Before arriving at Lille M. Gambetta paid a short visit to Boulogne, where he arrived by the yacht Hirondelle from St. Malo. He informed the sous-préfet that General Chanzy was better; had reorganised his army; and was marching forward. Before starting M. Gambetta conversed with the persons who surrounded his carriage door, and upon some one expressing his regret at the series of French reverses which the French arms have just experienced, "We shall rise again," was his calm and characteristic reply. The correspondent of the *Daily News* says that he looked very thin and careworn, and walked with a slight stoop; there were some present who had seen him descend from the balloon at Amiens last autumn, and their verdict was that in the intervening period he had aged considerably.

M. Gambetta left Lille on Monday for Calais and Laval after holding a council of war.

## THE CAMPAIGN ON THE LOIRE.

The military correspondent of the *Times* with the army of Prince Frederick Charles, telegraphs from Le Mans on the 17th:—"The entrenched French camp at Conlie has been occupied by part of the Second Army. A considerable quantity of arms, ammunition, provisions, and stores of all kinds have been taken. The Grand Duke of Mecklenburg entered Alençon early this morning, capturing several hundred head of cattle and numerous baggage and ammunition wagons. The French army is still in full retreat. The weather is mild, but the roads very heavy."

The losses of the Second German Army before Le Mans, in killed, wounded, and prisoners, were 177 officers, 3,203 men. The French loss of 22,000 prisoners, two flags, nineteen guns, and more than 1,000 wagons loaded with ammunition. Their loss in small-arms and commissary stores was also very great.

A telegram from Bordeaux of the 18th says:—"Chanzy's army is at Laval, midway between Le Mans and Rennes, in a good position. It is not anticipated that the Germans will enter Brittany: in any case, another engagement must take place before the enemy marches on Rennes."

M. Gambetta has been at Laval. While at Lille he declared that General Chanzy's army was in a most satisfactory position, and vaguely hints "at movements that will soon surprise the world."

According to a telegram from Bordeaux in the *Daily News*, there is reason to think that the battle of Le Mans was less disastrous to the French than was at first thought. General Chanzy was very ill. His lieutenant pushed forward with bad troops—Keratry's Bretons—wearing wooden shoes and armed with percussion muskets. These troops ought to have been kept in the background. Their panic spread among others. In a word, the repulse is to be regretted, but it is not to be considered as a decisive defeat. General Chanzy is now carrying out an important plan.

Tours has been occupied by divisions of the army of the Red Prince, the French offering no resistance.

English letters from the German camp describe the quality of the French troops in very strong terms. One writer, who dates from the headquarters of the Duke of Mecklenburg at Montfort on the 12th, says:—"Whatever may be said of the Imperial armies, or those first Republican troops who, at the outset, inspired many with hope, these two days' fighting have made it plain to us that the last raw levies are utterly contemptible from a military point of view, and are far inferior to anything professing to be an organised army with which the Germans have yet come into collision." In the battles about Montfort the Mobiles did not wait to be fired at, and all the uniforms of the dead are those of the Line: except as a prisoner, the Mobile is rarely seen by the enemy, as the men do not wait to be fired at. The same thing was observed in the battles about Orleans. A whole battalion of these troops, 1,000 in number, laid down their arms and surrendered themselves, with their officers, when they might easily have escaped. The poor fellows seem to have been villanously led by their regimental officers."

## THE NEW EMPEROR OF GERMANY.

The following proclamation of the King of Prussia to the German people was forwarded through Count Itzenplitz to the Upper and Lower Houses of the Prussian Diet:—

We, William, by God's grace King of Prussia, hereby announce that the German Princes and Free Towns having addressed to us a unanimous call to renew and undertake with the re-establishment of the German Empire the dignity of Emperor, which now for sixty years has been in abeyance, and the requisite provisions having been inserted in the Constitution of the German Confederation, we regard it as a duty we owe to the entire Fatherland to comply with this call of the united German Princes and Free Towns, and to accept the dignity of Emperor.

Accordingly, we and our successors to the Crown of Prussia henceforth shall use the Imperial title in all the relations and affairs of the German Empire, and we hope to God that it may be vouchsafed to the German nation to lead the Fatherland on to a blessed future, under the auspices of its ancient splendour. We undertake the Imperial dignity conscious of the duty to protect with German loyalty the rights of the Empire and its members, to preserve peace, to maintain the independence of Germany, and to strengthen the power of the people. We accept it in the hope that it will be granted to the German people to enjoy in lasting peace the reward of its arduous and heroic struggles within boundaries which will give to the Fatherland that security against renewed French attacks which it has lacked for centuries.

May God grant to us and our successors to the Imperial Crown that we may be the defenders of the German Empire at all times, not in martial conquests, but in works of peace in the sphere of national prosperity, freedom, and civilisation.

After the proclamation had been read in both Houses of the Prussian Diet, the Presidents made speeches referring to the high significance of this document, and calling for cheers for Germany's Emperor, King William. The members cheered unanimously. The Lower House determined to reply to the proclamation by an Address, the Polish members dissenting. The proclamation was read aloud in the streets. It was received with loud cheers. The passage in which reference was made to the frontiers of the Fatherland and the security against French aggression was especially applauded. The city was illuminated in the evening. There were dense crowds before the Queen's Palace cheering the "Empress," and singing patriotic songs. Unter den Linden was thronged.

In the Upper House of the Prussian Diet, the President announced that he had sent a telegram to Versailles declaring that the Upper House would stand by the German Emperor as it had stood by the Prussian King. His Majesty sent back a message of thanks in reply.

In the Free Town of Bremen, by order of the Senate, flags were displayed, bells rung, and cannon fired, to testify their joy on the establishment of the Empire. Similar proceedings took place in Hamburg, Munich, &c., and great enthusiasm prevails throughout all Germany.

On Wednesday King William was proclaimed Emperor of Germany in the Hall of Mirrors, Versailles, in the palace of the French kings, and in the presence of all the German Princes who are under the standards of the army before Paris, and surrounded by the representatives of the different regiments. In describing the ceremonial the *Daily News* correspondent says:—

It was a very brilliant scene. The German standards were grouped at the western end of the gallery. In the centre an altar was fitted up for the performance of the Lutheran service. Before the altar stood the Emperor, with the Crown Prince at his right hand, and the princes of Germany in a semi-circle behind him. At the altar stood several Lutheran clergymen, the army chaplains in full canonicals, &c. On their right was a military band. The service was made more than usually impressive by some excellent singing and music. A short but able sermon was preached, in which the political situation was boldly touched upon.

The Imperial party afterwards moved to the end of the gallery, where the standards were. His Majesty made a speech, stating that he accepted the title of Emperor at the wish of the people and the princes of Germany, and to secure the national union of the Fatherland. The Crown Prince spoke next, and at the end of his speech cried in a firm voice, "Long live Kaiser Wilhelm!" Thereupon arose such a shout as the gallery has seldom heard. Helmets and caps were waved aloft; the band struck up the National Anthem; the enthusiasm was irresistible.

## THE LONDON CONFERENCE.

At the preliminary meeting of the Conference, the Austrian Plenipotentiary proposed that a protocol should be signed by all the Powers condemning the principal of one-sided repudiation or denunciation of a treaty. Russia demurred to this, but was induced by Prussia and England to give in its adhesion. The second meeting of the Conference was held yesterday.

The semi-official Berlin papers confirm the statement that Count Bernstorff has received instructions at once to withdraw from the Conference in case the French question should be entered upon.

The *Vienna Presse* says that at the late Cabinet Council it was resolved to recommend at the Conference:—1st. That the competence of the European Commission should be extended to Ibraila or Orsova. 2nd. That works for the regulation of the stream at the "Iron-gate" should be carried forward. 3rd. That the cost should be defrayed by a toll on the ships of all nations.

In reply to the request of M. Jules Favre, on the 13th inst., for a safe-conduct, in order that he might proceed to London, Count Bismark, on the 16th inst., replied that he could not forward such a document. He could not enter upon official negotiations at the base of which lies the presupposition that the Government of the National Defence is internationally capable of negotiating in the name of the French people, before it at the least has been recognised by the French nation. The Commander-in-Chief would certainly have empowered the advanced posts to allow M. Favre to pass without prejudicing the question at issue; but this plan was now impossible, chiefly in consequence of M. Favre's declaration of the 12th inst.—that an invitation to the Conference would be a recognition of the French Government—which prevented Count Bismark's complying with the wish of M. Favre in the matter of the safe-conduct. Count Bismark left it to M. Favre to consider whether any other way could be found to allay the scruples above mentioned, and to avoid any prejudice which might arise from the presence of M. Favre in London, In conclusion, Count Bismark asks if it is advisable that M. Favre should now proceed to London, since the interests now at stake in Paris are far more important for Germany and France than the Black Sea question, and when the diplomatic agents of foreign States in relation with France, trusting to the protection of the Government, had remained in Paris. It is therefore scarcely to be expected that M. Favre, in so critical a situation, of which he had been the main cause, would deprive himself of the possibility of co-operating to effect a solution the responsibility of which would rest upon him.

It is said that the military authorities at Versailles have granted M. Favre a safe-conduct pass.

An official telegram has been received from Versailles, stating that M. Favre has communicated to Mr. Odo Russell his intention not to leave Paris to take part in the Conference.

It is understood that the Sultan's Government will insist at the Conference that, if a strong naval force in the Black Sea be permitted to Russia, Turkey should have as a counterpoise the full right to open the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus to ships of war belonging to friendly nations in time of peace, when occasion requires. Whether this view will suit the Russian policy may well be doubted, but she cannot reasonably oppose it, for the Straits being Turkish waters, Turkey is, according to the very doctrine propounded by Russia, entitled to exercise over these Straits its sovereign rights.

## NON-INTERVENTION.

A meeting of the working classes of South London was held on Friday evening at the Lambeth Baths for the purpose of expressing an opinion on "the firm, pacific, and watchful attitude of Her Majesty's Government" with respect to the present war between France and Prussia, and to deprecate armed intervention in the disputes of foreign nations, and its necessary consequence—increased armaments, naval and military. The chair was taken by the Rev. G. M. Murphy, and on the platform were also the Rev. N. Hall, Mr. Richard, M.P., and several respectable householders of the district. The Chairman read letters from the members for the borough regretting their inability to attend. After a few introductory words from the Chairman, deploring the sanguinary scenes which were being enacted on the continent, and citing them as a direct result of large armaments,

The Rev. NEWMAN HALL proceeded to move the following resolution:—

That while deploring the lamentable sacrifice of human life, and the worse than wasted energies of the two nations engaged in the present dreadful strife, we, the inhabitants of South London in public meeting assembled, rejoice in the firm, pacific, and watchful attitude of Her Majesty's Government, and would respectfully urge them still to resist the clamour for armed intervention between the belligerents, while standing prepared to suggest and give effect to pacific counsels at the earliest fitting opportunity.

They did not want, he said, to take part either with France or Prussia. Working men were the chief

sufferers on both sides in this war, in life as well as money; and therefore the preservation of peace was in the main a working man's question. He hoped to see the working men all over the world enrolled in a league against all wars except those of the first necessity. Was England called upon to intervene in the war between France and Prussia? If so, there must be more taxes and increased armaments. Did any English interest call on us to go to war? Surely we were in no danger at present either from France or Prussia, both of which Powers will be exhausted after the present struggle. Our revenue was sixty-nine millions, and out of it we paid twenty-five millions for the army and navy, and twenty-eight millions as the interest of a debt which had been created by wars of intervention. (Hear, hear.) It was complained that we had not as yet recognised the French Government, but the French nation had not as yet been called on for recognition. (Cheers.) We treated the French Government as a *de facto* Government, and our ambassador in France acted towards the Government exactly as our other ambassadors did towards the Governments of other countries. If we had intervened at the commencement of the war, we should have intervened for Prussia, and should have continued to do so up to the catastrophe at Sedan; but would we, with our blood roused, have then stopped? (Cries of "Yes," and "No.") The nation was excited at the commencement of the Crimean war, but now it was generally felt that that war was a mistake. Suppose we had stopped at Sedan and told the Prussians they should go no further, and that the Prussians persisted. Why, we should then have had to turn and fight the Germans. (Hear, hear.) We did not at the commencement of the war guarantee German soil against French conquest; why, then, now be asked to guarantee French soil against German conquest? (Hear, hear.) He thought they owed a deep debt of gratitude to Her Majesty's Government for the attitude it had assumed. The *Daily News* had said it was easy for national sympathies to change sides as a war assumed new aspects, but armies and navies could not change sides so easily. If we took a side, Russia and other countries might take sides also, and then the whole civilised world would be overrun with war and slaughter. Let them, then, not needlessly plunge into war, but sum up the policy of the British working man as, "No wars of aggression or of wanton intervention, but peace and goodwill towards all mankind." (Loud cheers.)

Mr. H. RICHARD, M.P., seconded the resolution. He reminded the meeting of the blood and treasure which this country had already wasted in intermeddling in the affairs of foreign nations. (Hear, hear.) Having quoted a humorous extract from Washington Irving, describing the disposition of John Bull to intermeddle in matters which did not concern him, Mr. Richard proceeded to enumerate the cost of previous British wars of intervention. In 1688 we began a war of intervention which cost thirty-five millions, twenty millions of which was left as a debt, the compound interest of which now amounted to 200 millions. From that time to the present, wars of intervention, or which might have been avoided, had cost us the incredible sum of 4,325 millions sterling. What had all this vast expenditure earned for us? Only the hatred and envy of those whom we had humiliated by our help. (Hear, hear.) His heart was warming with sympathy for France, but were her sufferings from war to be alleviated by pouring the oil of fresh combatants upon the already destructive fire of war? He regretted that Germany had not had the magnanimity to make peace after the capitulation of Sedan, and doubted the soundness of her policy of taking French soil in order to obtain a more secure frontier; but had we a right to protest? Had we not taken Gibraltar from Spain and Lower Canada from the French? had we not taken islands and territories on the mainland everywhere and from everybody? and had we ever asked the inhabitants whether they liked to be transferred? (Hear, hear.) What right, then, had we to protest against German annexation of French soil, on the ground that the inhabitants of the district objected to being transferred? (Hear, hear.) He warned the working men against the manœuvres of those persons who were seeking to create a war panic as an excuse for demanding increased armaments in the ensuing session of Parliament. Those persons wanted to card, and drill, and pipeclay the whole people of England; but the working men knew how the conscription pressed on their brethren on the continent, and would not submit to be torn from their peaceful pursuits and delivered over to the profaneness, licence, and recklessness of a camp. He asked, were they prepared to deliver over the whole of the male population of England to the military class, to be drilled as soldiers and used up in unnecessary wars? (Loud cries of "No, no," from all parts of the meeting.) If the military class were so anxious to fight for France, he was willing to offer them a compromise. Let the Foreign Enlistment Act be relaxed, and let those men go themselves to the battle instead of driving the working man to the slaughter. (Cheers.) What was it that after the most triumphant wars

the people get?
Why widows, orphans, wooden legs, and debt.

(Loud cheers.)

Mr. JOHNSTONE moved an amendment, deprecating our indifference respecting the sufferings of France as selfish and inhuman. The speaker inveighed strongly against the alleged cruelties of Prussia, and suggested that an English contingent of 20,000 volunteers should be at once equipped and sent to fight for France under General Garibaldi, the only French general who was to be trusted. (This proposal excited general mirth in the meeting.)

Mr. YATES, as a Conservative working man, defended the Tory party from the charge of being anxious to get up a war. The *Standard* might advocate war, but Lord Derby, Mr. Disraeli, and other Tory leaders deprecated all foreign intervention.

Mr. PRATT supported the original resolution on the part of the Working Men's Peace Association. They were called upon, he said, to fight for the starving wives and orphans of France; but, if they did so, they would have starving wives and orphans in England, and, in his opinion, charity should begin at home. (Hear, hear.) He believed that, even if the English Government did fight successfully for France, their victory would not be used for the purpose of establishing a French Republic. (Hear, hear.)

After some further discussion, the amendment was rejected by a large majority; and the original motion was carried unanimously.

The meeting was then adjourned until Friday next.

On Thursday night a meeting, convened by the Workmen's National Peace Association—whose object is "to advocate the settlement of all international disputes by arbitration, and the establishment of a high court of nations for that purpose"—was held at the Bell, Old Bailey, for the purpose of advocating the principles of the association, and discussing the question whether it is advisable for this country to pursue a war or a peace policy. The chair was taken by Mr. Galbraith. Mr. CREMER brought up the question of holding a great public meeting in London in favour of a peace policy, and remarked that whatever infatuation had seized some of their London fellow-countrymen with respect to war, the case was far different with the people and the press of the North of England. After some discussion, in which Mr. Lucraft, M.S.B., Messrs. Hales, Osborne, and Staineby, and others took part, and in which it was urged as desirable that the meeting should be held soon after the meeting of Parliament, it was resolved that a great public meeting be held in the Freemasons' Tavern on Tuesday, the 14th of February. Mr. DEAN then proposed:—

That this Council, feeling assured that the views of the working classes are not in favour of a war policy now being advocated by a small section of our countrymen, expresses its regret that such extreme views and demands should be put forth in their name, they being convinced that the realisation of such demands would be detrimental to liberty, and to the best interests of the people.

Mr. BARBS seconded the resolution. Mr. OSBORNE objected to the words "small sections," because in every house he went to he found the people to a man positively mad for war. (No.) The CHAIRMAN remarked that the numerous men who worked in his shop, although they were opposed to the conduct of Prussia, were still more opposed to this country plunging into war. Mr. COLLIVER said it was the most illiterate working men who were for war, because they did not know they had to find the men and the money, and all for the benefit of the upper classes. Mr. CREMER denied that there was so strong a war feeling among the working classes as Mr. Osborne had described. The resolution was carried with the omission of the word "small" before "section."

(*Continued on page 87.*)

## Postscript.

*Wednesday, January 25th, 1871.*

## THE WAR.

### IMPENDING CAPITULATION OF PARIS.

(From the *Times*.)

VERSAILLES, Jan. 24, 2 p.m.

M. Jules Favre is now here with proposals for a capitulation.

He proposes that the garrison shall leave Paris with honours of war.

This is quite inadmissible.

The attack on St. Denis and the great defeat of the 19th have mainly led to the resolution to ask for terms.

Trochu is ill.

Vinoy commands.

M. Favre has seen Count Bismark.

The arrangement of terms will take time.

The French demands are far too large.

BRUSSELS, Jan. 24.

Intelligence from Paris has reached here that General Trochu has resigned the command of the armies of Paris, but will continue to act as Governor of Paris. Admiral de la Roncière or Admiral Saisset are mentioned as likely to succeed General Trochu in command of the armies in Paris. General Le Flô, Minister of War, has resigned.

(From the *Daily Telegraph*.)

VERSAILLES, Jan. 21.

There appears to be solid ground for believing that Paris will capitulate by or on Wednesday next. In the Council of War which was held yesterday in the besieged capital to discuss the position and adopt the final decision, Trochu was severely blamed.

(From the *Daily News*.)

VERSAILLES, Jan. 24.

M. Jules Favre came into Versailles in the middle of last night.

The fire on both sides was continued throughout yesterday. There is firing to-day.

MAGENCY, Jan. 22.

The town of St. Denis was fired yesterday afternoon in four places. One of the fires was a very extensive one. The French fire in reply to the German was chiefly directed on Montmagny, Villanteuse, and Enghien. The German casualties, as reported, are one killed and three wounded. In the village of Montmagny the German fire during the night was at the rate of one shot per gun per hour. The French fire was comparatively feeble.

BRUSSELS, Jan. 24.

Valenciennes, Douai, Arras, and Lille are to be inundated. The loss to agriculture will, it is estimated, be twenty millions. Communication with these towns will soon be interrupted.

### BREAKING OF THE GERMAN COMMUNICATIONS.

On Sunday night some partisan troops, erroneously stated to have been led by Ricciotti Garibaldi, blew up the railway bridge over the Moselle, between Nancy and Toul. This is the first really serious attack that has been made on the main line of the German communications since Toul was taken, and will cause great inconvenience to the armies west of the Moselle. The German engineers will not wait to reinstate the bridge in its former stability, but will most likely be able to place it in good working order in a few days. The blowing up of a tunnel would be a far more serious affair.

### THE WAR IN THE EAST.

We have further French telegrams from Dijon. It will be remembered that the telegram from that place promulgated by M. Gambetta at Lille on Monday represented the Prussians as thoroughly beaten on Sunday, and as flying before the victorious Garibaldians, leaving material and prisoners behind them. This morning we have news from Dijon to Monday evening. Strange to say, the Prussians were before the town on that morning, and attacked it violently on its northern and western fronts. It is stated that after the enemy had gained a footing in Pouilly and St. Appolinaire, he was beaten back. In the meantime, however, a German corps is already pressing southward of Dijon on the east, and has arrived at Dole, leaving Dijon on its right. Dijon must inevitably be taken by the advancing Germans. General Fransecky's 2nd Corps, which left the camp before Paris three weeks ago, is in the neighbourhood, communicating with Zastrow's corps by its left, and Garibaldi has no force which can stand against them. The exact position of Bourbaki is not known, but the Swiss reports mention various French corps as posted on the frontier, from Abbeville, below Montbéliard, by Blamont and Pierrefontaine. These are points where General Manteuffel would much like to find Bourbaki's whole army, as his troops press forward from Dole, to press as many battalions of the enemy as possible upon the Swiss frontier.

An official despatch received at Bordeaux from Dijon states that Ricciotti Garibaldi's brigade has completely destroyed the 1st Prussian infantry regiment. The French troops, it is added, displayed great heroism.

### THE CONFERENCE.

The Conference on the Neutralisation of the Black Sea met at the Foreign Office yesterday, and at its rising adjourned until Tuesday next. In the absence of a representative of France at the Conference, Lord Granville confers with M. Tissot, the French Chargé d'Affaires, before and after each meeting of the Plenipotentiaries.

From American advices it appears that the shipments of arms and military stores from the United States to France in the six months since the breaking out of the war have been of the value of 2,110,000*l.* sterling.

Up to yesterday morning 5,514*l.* had been paid at the Mansion House in aid of the fund for relieving the distress of non-combatants in and around Paris, and the different suffering districts throughout France. At a meeting of the committee, later in the day, more donations were announced.

### MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

Influenced by the expected capitulation of Paris, and by the cold weather, the grain-trade to-day was firm, although the business actually concluded, with the exception of flour, was small. There was a limited supply of English wheat on sale, but the arrivals from abroad were more liberal. Sales in all descriptions were effected at the extreme rates current on Monday last. Barley was in fair supply, but malting qualities, owing to their inferiority, were little inquired after. Grinding samples, however, were purchased more freely, at full rates. Malt was dull and unchanged. There was a moderate show of oats on the stands, which were taken off to a fair extent, at prices tending upwards. Beans, peas, and maize were steady, both in demand and value. The flour trade was considerably improved, in consequence of news with reference to the capitulation of Paris, and quotations advanced from 6*d.* to 1*s.*, both in sacks and barrels, but chiefly in the latter.

RECEPTION OF THE RELEASED FENIANS IN AMERICA.—The Philadelphia correspondent of the *Times* says:—"The Fenian liberated prisoners, when they arrive at New York, will have an extensive reception. Besides the Tammany Committee and the Democratic politicians generally, all the Irish societies in New York are making preparations, and the Board of Aldermen of the City Government has also passed complimentary resolutions and appointed a reception committee."

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# The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1871.


## SUMMARY.

"CAPITULATION of Paris!" Most newspaper readers must this morning have read this conspicuous heading in the *Times* with a feeling of profound relief. The announcement is, however, somewhat premature; but the probability of yesterday will, we trust, become an accomplished fact to-day or to-morrow. The diminishing supplies of food—bread already being doled out in rations to the population; the signal failure of the great sortie from Mont Valérien on the 19th, in which 100,000 men vainly tried to break through the steel girdle of the besiegers; the opening of new German batteries within eight hundred yards of the south forts; and the bombardment of St. Denis on the north-east of the city, have tended to hasten the surrender of the beleaguered city. The defence of Paris has failed. General Trochu, who has made the French capital into a great fortress, but has had bad materials to work with, is ill, and has resigned his position of Commander-in-Chief, retaining that of Governor. General Vinoy succeeds to the command of the active army. These changes are now of small consequence. On Monday night M. Jules Favre, no doubt with the approval of all his colleagues, went to Versailles to ask the terms of capitulation. We are told that the negotiations will take some time. The French Minister demanded that the troops should march out with all the honours of war, which was refused. He will have to accept eventually Count Bismark's terms, which, as a matter of policy, are not likely to be heavy. How the Parisians, after their four months' siege, borne with such marvellous patience and endurance, will have received this great news, and how the two millions cooped up within the ramparts, fed already on scanty rations, are to obtain adequate supplies of food, is not yet known. We await the tidings with fear and trembling.

The capitulation of Paris comes opportunely for a renewal of peace negotiations. It is coincident with a general breakdown of the relieving armies throughout France. The overthrow of the Army of the Loire, now driven away in a disorganised state to the borders of Brittany, has been followed by Bourbaki's failure to raise the siege of Belfort, or to dislodge the small German force which covered that operation. His repeated attacks upon Werder having failed, the French general has beat a precipitate retreat. He will hardly escape. A great German force, capable of rapid marching, is on his flanks; and it seems more probable that ere long Bourbaki and his levies will cross the Swiss frontier and lay down their arms in neutral territory, than that they will reach Bourges or Lyons to renew the war. In the north the French army under Faidherbe has been utterly defeated at St. Quentin, and driven back disorganised upon the forresses, some of which are even now invested by the victorious Germans. M. Gambetta has been at Lille, and has passionately advocated resistance to the bitter end. He asserts that if France prosecutes the war, even though she suffers defeats, the ruin of the enemy and the final success of France are certain.

We have yet to see whether M. Gambetta's colleagues in Paris will endorse his desperate policy, or show a disposition to accept the inevitable. There are many indications that a considerable portion of the French people are ready to terminate the war on any terms. If they still hold out, their conquerors will act without consulting them. It is stated in the *Times* that the exiled ex-Empress yesterday, with the full consent of the captive of Wilhelmshöhe, accepted the terms of peace offered by Count Bismark. This, of course, means a release of the 300,000 French soldiers in Germany, and an Imperial restoration, or civil war, in which the Republic is hardly likely to survive. At all events, the Germans will now cease to carry on the war on a large scale, and will content themselves with the occupation of Champaign and the two provinces they intend to annex, till France is ready to accept peace on Count Bismark's terms.

The London Conference on the Treaties of 1857 held its second meeting yesterday. No representative of France was present. At the first sitting all the plenipotentiaries, that of Russia included, agreed to a declaration condemning the repudiation of general treaties without the consent of the co-signatories. This is a pacific triumph for English diplomacy. It seems to be assumed that the neutralisation of the Black Sea will be abandoned, coupled, however, with a provision—obnoxious enough to the Czar—that Turkey shall have the full right to allow ships of war of other nations to pass through the Bosphorus. There is now no fear that the Conference will be disturbed with reclamations on the subject of the war. M. Favre has a work in hand too momentous to allow of his journey to London, and the negotiations for peace will of course be carried on directly between the belligerents at Versailles.

The interest in the other news of the week is, to a great extent, superseded by the crisis which has arisen in respect to the Franco-German war. In another fortnight, when Parliament opens, our Government may be enabled to announce the restoration of peace, and the absence of any need for England to arm. King William has been proclaimed Emperor of Germany at Versailles to the music of shrieking shells, carrying the death-warrant of hapless women and children in Paris. Never was a great potentate installed under such terrible conditions. A correspondence has been published which satisfactorily explains away the ominous language of Mr. Gladstone relative to the Pope. The Trafalgar-square demonstration in favour of France was a comparative failure, and is a sign that the war party in England is not increasing. In Ireland assassinations, arising out of land difficulties, are again rife. At Norwich it is expected that the Liberal party will be once again united in returning Mr. J. J. Colman as the successor of Mr. Tillett; and at Halifax Mr. Stansfeld's constituents have passed a resolution, similar to that adopted at Bradford, condemning the short-comings of the Education Act of last Session.

## THE SEQUEL TO THE FALL OF PARIS.

THE signs that the siege of Paris is rapidly drawing towards its close are too numerous and too distinct to be mistaken. Not much faith, perhaps, is to be put in the terrors of a bombardment, although it must be admitted that hitherto the Parisians have been made familiar with only the fringe of that horror. But the death-rate of non-combatants in that city mounts up with frightful rapidity. Bread, and that of but an inferior kind, is beginning to be rationed among all the inhabitants, and, perhaps more significant than all of the approaching end, the military element of the City of Beauty has once and again put forth its utmost strength to break the iron bar which prevents a free ingress and egress, without further effect than its own exhaustion. Things have happened in this Franco-German war so contrary to common expectation—the stream of events in its flow has so frequently doubled back upon itself, and taken a course the most unlikely to anticipation—the history of the conflict has been so thickly strewn with surprises, and so largely pervaded by a spirit of romance, that we hold ourselves on guard against astonishment at any turn which the siege of Paris may take. Nevertheless, strong as may be the sympathy which the fierce and inexorable dominancy of the Germans has excited throughout Europe for unhappy France, the surrender of Paris will be felt as a relief to the strained anxieties of the civilised world. The fight of Paris against her seemingly inevitable fate, and the unspeakable horrors to which she may be doomed, if her struggle be much further prolonged, excites a natural desire to see this crisis of her history passed at length. For, unquestionably, the siege of a capital containing two millions of inhabitants, and the steady approach of a famine which, possibly, neither besiegers nor besieged may ultimately be able to arrest, strike us a calamity, born of crime, unparalleled in the history of the world.

What is to be its sequel? This is a question which everybody is putting to himself and to his neighbour. To what extent is each of us responsible for the character of that sequel, and in what way can we impress upon it the stamp of our own wishes? We give no heed to the insinuations thrown out at random against Her Majesty's Government, that they have witnessed what has been taking place during the last few months with supine unconcern. We doubt not they have watched the course of events with as earnest a desire to change its direction as any of the self-styled leaders of the working men who figured on Monday night in Trafalgar-square. We expect to hear when Parliament opens that they have used the influence of the English nation entrusted to their keeping, with as much persistence, and to as great an extent, as the possibilities of the case would admit of. We cannot, indeed, affect surprise that they have resolutely withstood any temptation to enlarge the area of this senseless struggle, by intervening between the belligerent Powers at a moment when no intervention could be of the smallest use. It is quite clear that no mediation of the neutral Powers, even if it were armed, could have any immediate effect upon the fate of Paris, nor, as long as Paris holds out, upon the continuance of the war. The madness of passion has taken possession of both combatants. Each is committed beyond recall to whatever desperate chances are involved in the contest for the capital. To counsel the German Emperor at this moment is about as hopeless a task as it would have been a week or two ago to attempt to stay the north-eastern blast which swept over the larger half of Europe; while to tender advice to the Provisional Government of Defence would have resembled in fruitlessness the beating of the sea against a granite cliff. But with the fall of Paris will come a practicable opportunity, and an irresistible call, for the instant employment by the neutral Powers of all the combined moral influence at their command to stop the further effusion of blood. Have they agreed upon the course they will pursue as soon as that opportunity arises? Have they settled with one another upon the steps to be then taken to bring the belligerents back to reason and to peace?

The continuance of the war at the will of M. Gambetta or Count Bismark after Paris has been entered by the beleaguering Germans, will be a supreme disgrace to European diplomacy. We do not believe that France or Germany, if they were permitted to speak out, would deliberately prefer to prolong this contest. Unhappily, it is not the peoples, but their rulers, whose interests or pride stand in the way of an immediate adjustment of the quarrel. For the moment it may seem that the French nation is determined never to yield "an inch of her soil, or a stone of her fortresses," and that the German nation will never be content to put aside their arms until they have obtained a treaty guarantee for what they are pleased to call "a safe frontier." But there can be little doubt, we think, that were more moderate counsels pressed by the neutral Powers at the right moment and with sufficient energy, whatever might be the temper of their rulers, the vast majority of the population of both countries would gladly acquiesce in a compromise of the two extremes. Possibly, even the statesmen who find it impossible by their own decision to abate one iota of their proud and defiant demands, might be relieved by the interposition of a third party to extricate them from the difficulties in which they have become involved. At any rate, humanity pleads in commanding accents for such an intervention by the neutral Powers as, without running the risk of widening the stage of destructive antagonism, may put an end to the sufferings which now constitute the shame and the affliction of Christendom.

There is, however, a more immediate duty devolving upon the neutral Powers. The exigency which will very speedily develope itself in regard to the people of Paris must surely have engaged the attention of our Government. Has anything been done, or is anything being attempted, to arrange with the two belligerents for instantly revictualling the capital of France when the siege has been brought to a conclusion? If England wisely and sternly refuses to add fuel to the fire by taking part in the fray, she is not condemned to inactivity as it regards those sacrifices of mercy which it would best become her, of all nations, to exhibit on a large scale. This is not a matter which need be left wholly to the management of private and voluntary liberality. It would appear to us that both the Government and the people of England should be prepared beforehand to come

to the rescue of the Paris population against all possible chance of finding themselves foodless under circumstances in which no human powers could avail to supply their wants. Surely such a catastrophe might be averted by timely foresight, diplomatic arrangements, and national liberality. The conquering Germans should be called upon, even at some risk of their military predominance, to facilitate such a collection of the means of subsistence within easy reach of Paris as would avert from it the horrible possibility which appears to impend over it. This nation would not grudge any outlay requisite to accomplish so desirable an end. It would hail with acclamation an announcement from the Crown that efficient agencies have been organised, and sufficient stores have been sent forward, at the public expense, to save Europe the shock of witnessing the awful catastrophe to which we have adverted. It might, too, somewhat tame that inhuman ferocity which pursues its own trumpery ends, and the trumpery pride with which it is associated, regardless of the direful consequences to which they may conduct.

Time, however, is short. The end seems to be drawing nigh. What is done should be done at once. British intervention should take the shape of good deeds. Formalities of civil administration, and the usual maxims of political economy, should be made to give place in presence of the possibility of an impending woe more gigantic than any which history has yet recorded. The Fall of Paris would then become at once the shame of her besiegers, and the lifting up of those sublime principles of the Christian faith, which inculcate the duty, and display the brightest example, of saving men's lives in place of destroying them.

## THE PRESS AND THE CONSTITUENCIES.

THE gentlemen who do editorials in our "first-class newspapers" have assumed, and, it may be, felt, a great deal of virtuous indignation at the independent tone which has characterised certain Yorkshire constituencies in the judgment they have passed on the conduct of their members. To read the angry effusions of that portion of the metropolitan press which combines with the profession of Liberal opinions a sympathising representation of the feelings of the "upper ten thousand," one might imagine that Bradford and Halifax had grossly misbehaved themselves in presuming to express in the presence of their respective representatives what they thought of certain measures, past and future, and of the relation in which their members had stood, or might stand, towards such measures. A Minister actually in the Cabinet, and one likely very soon to be called to the Cabinet, go down to their several boroughs to give an account of their Parliamentary course last Session—and, in each case, a majority of their supporters vote for an amendment on the usual resolution of thanks and confidence. Halifax insists upon putting on record its utter condemnation of the Contagious Diseases Act, and Bradford regrets the character of the Elementary Education Act, and the way in which it was carried. Forthwith they are snubbed as if they had been guilty of some disgraceful impropriety, and the hope is expressed that no other boroughs will follow the bad example.

We refrain from all discussion of the merits of the question in dispute on either side, but, with all due respect to the censurers of these constituencies, we must observe of them that they do not usually exemplify either the modesty or the reticence which they so zealously commend to others. We know not why it is more unbecoming in a large constituency to give some expression to its views when it strongly differs with its representative, even though he may be a Cabinet Minister, than it is for an anonymous writer to censure the proceedings of a populous borough. No doubt, it is a distinction to have returned to Parliament a man deemed worthy of high position and service by the Crown—but surely it should be possible to have done this without having forfeited all title to announce both to him, and to the constituent bodies of the kingdom, that it does not concur, in this or that particular, in the propriety of what he has done. Cabinet Ministers occupy a position which enables them to do a great deal towards moulding public opinion, and if exempted from all responsibilities to their constituencies, are not unlikely to misjudge public sentiment. No doubt, newspaper writers would gladly keep in their own hands the function of criticising important members of the Government, but, on the whole, we believe the public would prefer that electors should express some sort of opinion as to the conduct of the elected, as a more trustworthy guide to the feelings of the country.

In the case of Bradford, it is unquestionably a matter for regret that its senior Member, the Right Hon. the Vice-President of the Council, should be at odds with the larger section of his own supporters, on the subject of the Education Act which he introduced and carried last Session. He had a strong will upon the subject as a Minister, and they had strong feelings about it as a constituency. He pressed on his measure to completion in the face of their wish, and they told him of their regret that he had done so at the first suitable opportunity. Now, really, we can see nothing in that to bring down upon them the concentrated wrath of the press. If Cabinet Ministers do not wish to challenge a verdict from their constituencies on their Parliamentary course, would it not be more seemly to abstain from visiting them under pretence that they do? Men in their position and with their onerous duties might very easily evade, if they will, for once at any rate, an annual political shrift. If, however, they insist upon taking a renewed vote of confidence from their usual supporters, and those supporters honestly express their judgment of the policy they have promoted in a certain direction, we want to know why they are to be abused as narrow, intolerant, fanatical, and ungrateful by those who do the garotting business of the press.

We have read the newspaper comments on the occurrences to which we have referred with some astonishment. We should have supposed that an upright, conscientious, and independent use of its influence by a constituency is as necessary to the political well-being of the country, as the sagacious and firm use of his power by a Cabinet Minister. It seems, however, that in the judgment of our political instructors—too often formed, by-the-by, by conventional rules—that such is not the case; that when a man finds his way into the Cabinet, he ceases to be amenable for his political behaviour to his constituents; and that much as they may differ with him, they must not, even when virtually dared to do it, tell him to his face of the difference. Nothing is gained, we think, by the one-sided suppression of truth thus suggested. It misleads the other side, and, by misleading, often lures it into peril. It is kinder to censure an objectionable act of a representative than to let dissatisfaction with the agent simmer in secret until it boils over. Men in office should not be too exacting. They use the power of others. If they use it in a manner that is objected to by those who lent them that power, it is better, in the end, that the score should be wiped out at once, than that disapprobation of the deed should by repression grow into disapprobation of the doer. At any rate, we are sure that no good can be anticipated from putting down the independence of constituencies for the convenience of Cabinet Ministers.

## A PEER AND A GENERAL ON NATIONAL DEFENCE.

THE Earl of Derby's recent wise counsels and warnings are neglected. It is so easy to excite alarm; and something like a panic has set in which, unless Parliament should act wisely and with reserve when the Session opens, will change our defensive arrangements for the last half-century, and make England a military nation. It seems useless to urge caution and delay in dealing with so serious a subject; to point to the exhaustion which is coming over both of the great belligerents on the continent, as a reason for our security; or to remind the public that now, as ever, the British Channel flows between England and the rest of Europe. The madness which infects our neighbours has seized the people, or at least the press, of this country; and at a time when a thorough military reform seemed possible, there comes an inopportune demand for more armaments.

Earl Russell, who is so fond of riding upon the rising storm, tells his countrymen that "the United Kingdom ought to be defended against invasion," and our colonies and dependencies protected "against a foreign enemy." We had thought that this was the precise object of our yearly expenditure of twenty-five millions per annum upon the two services, and the very reason why we maintain a powerful fleet, equal in strength and efficiency to the naval resources of any two nations combined. But why should England hurry into a great extension of our home defences—in fact, a complete revolution in our military system—at this present time? What Power threatens us? It is not France, which lies bleeding and disabled by the German invasion. Nor is it Russia, which has just been obliged to succumb to the opinion of Europe, and, in spite of Prince Gortschakoff's despatches, to subscribe to the declaration that no Power which has attached its signature to a collective treaty can release itself without the consent of the co-signatories. The United States, our most formidable rival in many respects—the Power that could do us the most injury—gives unmistakeable signs of a desire to settle all differences, and cultivate friendly relations. But the alarmists point to Germany as the great scarecrow. It is the new Empire in central Europe that is to swallow up little England—a Power as yet unprovided with a fleet with which to invade us! Germany is unquestionably the supreme military Power on the continent. But its soldiers are citizens, the greater part of whom will, in a few months at least, be disbanded and return to civil life. What have we to fear from this new Confederacy, when the policy of the two nations is so different that their interests can hardly be said to touch at any point? There is no need to place implicit confidence on the Emperor William's pacific aspirations. But are we to suppose that a commonwealth addicted to industrial and commercial pursuits, in which a member of nearly every family throughout the Fatherland has been stricken down by this cruel war, will, when peace is proclaimed, be ready to take England by the throat, and pour its veteran legions upon our shores?

Earl Russell calls for a Militia force of 200,000 men to be "raised by ballot for service in the United Kingdom only." Sir William Mansfield improves upon his lordship by urging the training of the whole male population on the principle of "national personal obligation for home defence." Both peer and general contemplate the more than possibility of invasion, which common sense shows to be the veriest chimera born of old-womanish panic. These schemes are put forward, pertinently remarks Admiral Sartorius, "as if we were a central continental nation, and keeping out of view the inestimable value of our insular position and the abundant means we possess, military and naval combined, of preventing such a catastrophe." And these alarmist views are ventilated in the teeth of the fact that France with her great naval resources has been unable to attack a single port, or land a single division, along the German coast line in the North Sea and the Baltic. At a time when all Europe is sickened with the horrors of war, we, who have happily held aloof, and are practically impregnable in our island-home, are invited to imitate "the spirit of self-sacrifice of that people of Prussia who have been well called the Spartans of modern Europe, and who find in this spirit their strength and their success.' Strength and success forsooth! Will it conduce to England's greatness to throw into confusion all her active and complex industry in order that the country, without any adequate reason, may be turned into a vast camp, and become the laughing-stock of Europe?

If such a revolution is not needed for national defence, it can only be required for inaugurating a new policy. For a generation past our security and moral influence have been the result of strict non-intervention in the affairs of other States. If we are to have great armaments, as is now suggested, either they must be used, or they will become an intolerable burden. Hitherto, amid all the perturbations and revolutions that have distracted Europe, we have not required them. Having nothing to fear from our neighbours, we cannot want such military preparations, unless we are going to change our policy. Shall we once more, after our long and costly experience, plunge again into the chaos of continental quarrels and jealousies? Must we set our house on fire because other countries have chosen to do so? This is not a military question, or we might bow with deference to the superior judgment of Sir William Mansfield. But we venture to think that neither an octogenarian peer nor an Indian general are precisely the best authorities on matters of high national policy. Why are we to discard the counsels of experienced statesmen whom we have trusted, and the dictates of our own common sense, and hand over the vital interests of the country to be dealt with by professional warriors whose ideas do not range beyond the camp and battle-field?

## THE SMALL-POX EPIDEMIC.

ARE we never to become freed from the dangers of pestilence? It seems as if all our science and learning were completely at fault when employed for the purpose of guarding us from the approach of epidemic disease. Can it be that mankind are detined to endure, for generations yet to come, the cruel ravages of fever and other like physical afflictions, even as they have to bear the terrible burdens and miseries of war. It cannot be that science and

civilisation are little better than hideous shams, that all the labours of our philosophers and students have ended in nothing. Impossible. Yet we seem fully as powerless as were our forefathers to arrest ever so slightly the spread of contagion. Up to the present time we have scarcely removed a name from the long row of diseases which every now and then ruthlessly decimate the populations of the earth. We suffer from the same disorders as did our ancestors, and from precisely the same causes. It is not philosophy or science which is in fault, it is ourselves. We would reap the substantial advantages of civilisation, without sharing any of its responsibilities. Scientific investigation has revealed to us many of the causes which tend to produce pestilence, and has told us how to remove them. But what practical use do we make of the information obtained by us? If we accomplish a portion only of the work required at our hands, the blame must be laid at our door, not at that of science. If scarlet fever and small-pox are now mercilessly invading the homes of the people, "requisitioning" thousands of valuable lives, and spreading panic and despair among the weeping survivors, it does not show that sanitary science is worthless, but that our sanitary and medical arrangements are defective. We have provided the machinery, but it is cumbrous and unmanageable. It will not work properly, and is continually subjected to a strain greater than it can safely bear. Our sanitary reformers have yet much to achieve before they can pause in their labours. If a proof of this were needed, it is furnished by the present serious outbreak of scarlet fever and small-pox in the metropolis. Never have such large sums been expended on sanitary improvement as in London. While Paris was proudly devoted itself to the work of constructing new boulevards, London was quietly perfecting the most gigantic system of city drainage ever undertaken. While Berlin busied itself with the erection of sumptuous palaces and rearing military barracks, London was engaged in rearing model lodging houses and other forms of improved dwellings for the labouring classes. But we have not been able to get beyond the beginning. We spend millions in the arts of destruction, and thousands in those of preservation. If we were as ready to risk any amount of labour and expense in the effort to save life, as we are to assist in destroying it, we should hear little of typhus, small-pox, and other forms of contagious disease. Vaccination has been shown to assist materially in checking the ravages of small-pox. True, there are some who dispute this, and hold that vaccination is not a preventive of small-pox, and therefore ought to be discouraged; but we cannot get over the fact that where vaccination is least practised, the mortality from small-pox is greatest. A significant illustration of this has been afforded by the recent experiences of the Hampstead Hospital. Since the opening of this institution four hundred and thirty-three patients have been admitted. Of these three hundred and sixteen had been vaccinated; one hundred and seventeen had not. Among the former there were five deaths in every hundred; among the latter the proportion was forty-one to every hundred. Such facts speak for themselves. Yet the prejudice against vaccination continues in many districts as powerful as ever. We are frequently hearing persons complaining of the deaths of children from vaccination, but have never been able to ascertain how far these complaints are based on facts. On the other hand, the statistics of the Hampstead Hospital show that not one vaccinated child had died after being received. If an unvaccinated child be attacked with small-pox, the chances are that the disease may prove fatal; but if vaccinated the probabilities are that it will recover. Yet in the face of these facts we find people earnestly denouncing vaccination, and bravely bearing fine and imprisonment rather than act otherwise than in accordance with their convictions. Surely there must exist some ground for this prejudice. Very possibly the unskilful or careless manner in which the operation is performed may have something to do with the matter. If the operation be not properly performed the child might as well remain unvaccinated. But the operators are not always to blame. In London, some extraordinary administrative bungling seems to have occurred in connection with the system of public vaccination, and to this, rather than to indifference or dislike on the part of parents, we fear the present prevalence of small-pox is in some measure due. According to the first report of the *Lancet* Metropolitan Sanitary Commission, the state of vaccination in Islington, the first London parish noticed by the Commission, is most unsatisfactory. In a population of 200,000, and with over 7,000 births annually, the average number of infants vaccinated by the public vaccinators is not more than 1,200—about a third of the number which is estimated should be so vaccinated. The district formerly had eight vaccinators, but these have been reduced to four in pursuance of the policy adopted by the Privy Council. The *Lancet* Commissioners visited these four stations at the appointed times for vaccination. At the first station there were no vaccinated children and no supply of lymph, and eight women with children had to be dismissed until the following week. The vaccinator said that his appointed time, Saturday afternoon, "was extremely inconvenient for the attendance of wives of clerks and working men, . . . so that he had found a great falling off in the attendance as compared with his previous experience as a parish vaccinator at his own house." The other stations furnished equally unsatisfactory results. At the second station the time was two o'clock on Tuesday, and there were only three children brought for vaccination. The vaccinator lives more than a mile from the station, and is not personally known to the inhabitants of this district; while in the locality of his residence, where he is known, he has numerous applications for vaccination. The result of the inquiries made was to prove that during the week ending January 14, only sixteen children were brought to the four public vaccinating stations in Islington. Now here is an illustration of what we said, when declaring that it was ourselves, not science, who were to blame. Vaccination, properly practised, is found to be a preventive of small-pox, or, at least, to assist in mitigating its fatal character; but with this knowledge in our possession, no steps are taken to secure the general working of the system. The consequence is, that some of the public vaccinators are over-worked, and yet the number of unvaccinated children continues to increase. No wonder we hear of the growing ravages of small-pox. The matter is one too important to be overlooked. If parents would, when it could be effected, without serious trouble or expense to themselves, have their children properly vaccinated, it would largely assist in mitigating the public fear of the dreaded pestilence.

## M.P.'S AND THEIR CONSTITUENTS.

Mr. Stansfeld has been visiting his constituents at Halifax during the past week. In his speech on the Government education measure on Tuesday he said that it did not completely represent the views which he would have liked to have seen enacted in it. At the same time, he agreed with Mr. Forster that no other bill could have been passed last year, and that if it had not been passed last year there would have been no hope for it in the coming session. As to the religious difficulty, he thought public opinion was not ripe for a solution of it on the system which he would have preferred—the nation dealing with secular instruction, and the denominations with religious education. He favoured compulsion. He would not tamper or palter with the question.

Mr. Stansfeld was on Wednesday waited upon at Halifax by a deputation whose object was to urge upon him the desirability of the immediate and total repeal of the Contagious Diseases Act. After hearing addresses by several members of the deputation, Mr. Stansfeld said that it was necessary that, as a member of the Government, he should speak with reserve; but he would go so far as to say that, if he was convinced, when the time came for him to form a positive and final conclusion, that the tendency of the Acts in question was immoral, he should not be a member of the Government that would support them.

Mr. Stansfeld concluded his visit to his constituents at Halifax on Thursday night by addressing a monster meeting in the Drill Hall. Referring to the forthcoming session, the right hon. gentleman intimated his belief that the Ballot Bill would be introduced at an early period; that the University Tests Bill would again be brought forward, and would not on this occasion be rejected by the House of Lords; and that a licensing bill, which would not evade but grapple with the question, would be laid before the House. With respect to the army, Mr. Stansfeld maintained that all the forces must be made available for the defence of the country, and expressed his opinion that no reform in the army would be complete unless it included the abolition of the purchase system. At the conclusion of his speech, a vote of confidence in the right hon. gentleman was proposed, but rejected in favour of an amendment which excepted from the vote his opinions on the Contagious Diseases Acts. A resolution was also adopted approving of Mr. Stansfeld's personal opinions on the education question, but expressing disappointment with the measure passed last session and with the conduct of the Government in respect to it.

On Thursday evening Mr. Otway, M.P., late Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, addressed his constituents at Chatham. Having paid a tribute to the large-heartedness and true-mindedness of Mr. Gladstone, and expressed a hope that Mr. Bright might soon be restored to health, the hon. gentleman expressed an opinion that if Lord Clarendon had survived, the horrors of the present war would have been averted. He himself had only retired when he could no longer, honourably for himself, or honestly to the Government, continue to represent the department with which he was connected in the House of Commons. Feeling compelled to resign, he had taken that step; and Mr. Gladstone and Earl Granville expressed approval of the motives which led to it. He denied that he had been engaged in any conspiracy for the restoration of the Pope, or had in any way interfered in the political affairs of Italy. The question which town should be the capital of Italy was one for the Government of the people of that country. On the general question of foreign policy, Mr. Otway said that it was irritating to hear the low estimation in which England is held by foreign countries, and urged a firm and dignified foreign policy as the only means of putting things right. He did not favour reckless warfare, but nothing was so likely to cause war as the showing signs of weakness. He hoped the Conference now sitting in London would adopt means to put an end to the war, and that neutral powers would throw over their pusillanimous policy of non-intervention. The hon. gentleman also spoke in favour of increasing our defences. A vote of confidence was passed.

On Monday evening the members for Brighton addressed a crowded meeting of their constituents. Mr. White expressed sympathy with France since the downfall of the Empire. One effect of the war was a revival of the disgraceful panics common in England. He ridiculed the alarmist talk about our defences, but admitted we had a maximum of cost with a minimum of efficiency. He hoped Mr. Gladstone would be no respecter of persons. He called upon the Duke of Cambridge to resign amidst loud cheers. Mr. Fawcett, who was received with loud cheers and slight tokens of disapprobation, after pointing out the blemishes in the Education Bill, attacked Mr. Gladstone at some length on account of his ecclesiastical policy, and his attempts to deprive the poor of their public inclosures. He had no sympathy whatever with a certain section of advanced politicians, who were anxious to render armed assistance to France, which, nevertheless, had his warmest sympathies. He regretted that the Government had not recognised the Government of National Defence. A vote of confidence in both members was unanimously passed.

## THE DEAN OF WESTMINSTER AT SURREY CHAPEL.

Dean Stanley presided last Monday night at the weekly popular lecture, which was delivered by the Rev. Newman Hall on the subject of his recent visit to Jerusalem. After the usual short prayer at the opening, concluding with the Lord's Prayer, in which the people joined, the pastor explained the nature of the meeting. They wished to afford innocent and instructive recreation for the working classes, who needed recreation as much as other people, but for whom there was too much provided in every street which it was to be feared was far from being of an elevating character. These meetings on Monday nights were in no sense ecclesiastical, and were of a secular rather than a religious character, though it was hoped the tendency was always in favour of religion. Although on Sunday this was a church, yet on Monday nights instead of being shut up useless in the dark and cold, it was employed for gathering in the people, many of whom might otherwise be worse employed, to give them innocent and instructive recreation. There were some who might decline to assist either as chairman or lecturers because the building had a religious character, but they thanked the Dean not only for giving up some of his valuable time, but also that he did not object to come, although it was Rowland Hill's Chapel. The Dean, who was welcomed with great enthusiasm, before calling upon the lecturer to deliver his address, remarked that there were three features connected with the Holy Land which his own visit there had deeply impressed on his mind: the first was, that while only a small number of persons were interested in such countries as Greece and Egypt, all ranks and all classes were alike interested in the land which was bound up with the history of the religion which was equally important to all; the second was, the homely character of the scenes associated with our religion, as if to impress upon us the fact that Christianity owes its impressiveness to the truths it teaches, and not to the places where it originated. The Dean then dwelt very emphatically on the third idea, which much impressed his mind: the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, whether occupying or not the very ground traditionally attributed to it, had been, nevertheless, in all ages associated with the greatest facts of Christianity, the crucifixion and the resurrection of our Lord. Under that one roof there were chapels appropriated to the different sections of the Church. The Roman Catholic, the Armenian, and the Greek Christians, though differing in minor points of doctrine, as well as in government and ceremonial, met together round the same great central truths, and around the memorials of the one Lord to whom they all professed reverence.

A Persian manuscript of great beauty, containing sixty full-page miniature illuminations, and profusely ornamented throughout in gold and colours in the highest class of ancient art, was sold by Messrs. Puttick and Simpson, of Leicester-square, a few days back, for 205*l*.

# THE WAR.

(*Continued from page* 83.)

## THE FRENCH SYMPATHY MEETING IN TRAFALGAR-SQUARE.

In spite of the miserable weather, a large number of persons attended the meeting held in Trafalgar-square on Monday night, to express sympathy with France. A procession with flags and a brass band marched from a back thoroughfare in the Farringdon-road to Trafalgar-square, and on their arrival the meeting commenced. Great pains were taken to light the spot by means of the peculiar outdoor lights used by costermongers. A large number of the crowd appeared to be practically acquainted with the use of these "flamers," and this knowledge led to two disadvantages; for at one period of the evening the costermongers shouted out instructions how the lights should be managed, and so disturbed the proceedings; and in the after part they gave their assistance, and tumbled the framework on which the lamps were hanging, the lamps themselves, and the burning fluid, among the crowd. Mr. Odger, who presided, said that the English working classes meant to tell Earl Granville that, instead of representing German princes, he must represent the good feeling, the aspirations, and the desires of the people of England. He contended that England should take the initiative in a policy to be followed by the other neutral Powers, and humanity demanded that she should do so. He did not say that, if the terms of the neutral Powers were not accepted by the Prussians, England should maintain them single-handed, and those who had called this meeting did not want war, as some of the papers said, but they held that the time had come for the neutral Powers to say what terms of peace would be right and just. Mr. Odger strongly condemned the barbarities and robberies which he alleged had been committed by the Prussians, and said that something better was to have been expected from an educated German people. Still the German people must not be held responsible for all this war, for it was in the hands of the arrogant old King, who invoked the power of Heaven that he might slaughter innocent women and children. By the fall of Napoleon there was one tyrant the less reigning in Europe; and if the ruler of Germany were soon to follow, "the people" would not put on sackcloth and ashes. Mr. Fagan, Mr. Nieass, Mr. Weber (a German), Mr. Lees, and Mr. Salomons were the other principal speakers. Resolutions were unanimously adopted protesting against the "cruel and relentless manner" in which the war was being carried on by the "despot King," who is now "throwing shot, shell, and liquid fire into Paris," and calling upon the British Government "to initiate immediately a consultation with the neutral Powers, and to ascertain whether they are willing to join England and take a decided action to stop this war at all risks and hazards." Mr. Salomons, in moving a resolution regretting the action of the War Office in relation to the volunteers and the Jules Favre demonstration, said that several of the volunteers who had attended the committee meeting on Saturday evening last had that day received their dismissal from the corps to which they belonged. He proposed that the men who were dismissed from their corps should have their names inscribed on a golden flag, while the names of the commanding officers who dismissed them should be inscribed on a black flag. This motion was also carried.

## NOTES AND INCIDENTS.

The *North German Gazette* states, with regard to the export of arms from the United States, that according to section 13 of the treaty concluded between Prussia and America on the 11th of July, 1799, Prussian men-of-war are not allowed to capture American vessels carrying contraband of war to France. They may, however, lay an embargo on it, and prevent them from continuing their voyage while war is being carried on, or they may take possession of the contraband of war after giving a bond for future payment, and then release the vessels. The *North German Gazette* presumes that the Prussian navy will act accordingly.

Prince Albrecht is seriously ill at Maintenon. His eyes are affected, and his health is generally broken down from over-exertion and exposure.

A meeting was held at the Mansion House on Wednesday, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor, to set on foot a public subscription for the relief of the distress existing among the population at Versailles, and other districts around Paris. It was stated that about 100,000 persons in these districts are now without means of subsistence. The proprietors of the *Daily Telegraph* had subscribed 1,000*l.*, and other subscriptions had raised this amount to 1,560*l.*, of which 500*l.* had already been sent to Versailles. A committee was appointed to make the necessary arrangements for raising a fund, and 1,300*l.* was subscribed in the room.

Five inhabitants of Mézières, including the Mayor, have been sent to the Prussian fortress of Cosel, on account of having destroyed a railway line.

Preparations are being made in Prussia for the early reception of 150,000 prisoners, evidently in anticipation of the capitulation of Paris. At Posen, Glogau, and Liegnitz, in particular, extensive preparations are in progress. The number of prisoners is now so large that second-rate provincial towns will, it is said, be selected for the accommodation of some of them, provided they offer the requisite space and security.

Count Daru, in a letter to M. Gambetta, protests against the dissolution of the Councils-General, as he says he did against the dissolution of the Corps Législatif. The text of the protest signed by the Count and the other members of the Council-General of the Manche, concludes by saying that, the decree of dissolution notwithstanding, they shall continue to consider themselves in office until new elections are ordered.

The *Echo du Luxembourg* says that pestilential odours are arising from the places of interment at Sedan, as the bodies of the fallen have not been buried deep enough. They will have to be taken up, it is feared, and interred at a greater depth.

Count Bismark has been suffering severely, and Von Roon has been absolutely in danger.

Herr von Wickede says in the *Cologne Gazette*:—"How tremendously strong the defensive power of France has been heretofore we have good reasons to know by the present war. The fortresses of Metz, Strasbourg, Schelestadt, Breisach, Marsal, Phalsburg, Thionville, Toul, Verdun, Soissons, Laon, Montmédy, Mézières, Amiens (citadel), and Péronne have been taken; but there remain Paris, Belfort, Besançon, Lyons, Langres, Longwy, Cambrai, Douai, Valenciennes, Arras, Lille, Cherbourg, and Brest, without reckoning the south French fortresses.

The Prince de Joinville has written a letter stating that, although he was accepted by General Chanzy, and commissioned as a major, he was arrested by order of M. Gambetta, closely imprisoned for five days, and then sent to England *viâ* St. Malo.

M. Louis Blanc is preparing a history of the siege of Paris, the incidents of which he follows with the closest attention.

It is stated that Garibaldi has received from two German Republican Societies of working men in London a sympathetic address, thanking him for his devotion to the Republican cause and for the war he is carrying on against Prussian despotism.

From Lyons we learn that the ex-Minister Pinard has been set at liberty, but has been ordered to leave France immediately.

It is announced that the subscriptions for the residue of the North German loan, amounting to about 7,500,000*l.*, will be received in Berlin and London on Thursday and Friday next.

A balloon which left Paris at seven o'clock on Monday morning week passed over Brussels at nine o'clock in the morning. The passengers, believing themselves to be over French territory occupied by the Prussians, continued their voyage; but on coming in sight of the sea an hour later they ripped open the balloon, and descended 4,000 mètres in five minutes. The shock was terrific. They were thrown out of the car in a state of insensibility, with one bag containing despatches, near the coast of Holland. The balloon then remounted, but eventually fell into the sea and sank, with the remainder of the despatches.

The Swiss are said to be violently French. The stationers' shops are full of war caricatures. In one picture King William is seen riding upon Bismark and exclaiming, "Oh! Count, Count, carry me down to posterity!"

The son of M. Jules Simon, who is a surgeon, was engaged recently in dressing the left arm of a wounded man in Paris. While he was thus engaged a shell came through the roof of the room in the Hôpital des Enfans Malades, in which he was standing, struck the wounded arm, and went through the floor, taking the arm along with it.

Chanzy rose from a sick bed to conduct the battle which finished so disastrously for his army.

It is related of the Prussians at Chartres that, after culling the choicest greens in the curé's garden, they lacked oil for the proposed salad. They scandalised the poor priest by helping themselves to the "holy oil," intended not for the palates of the living, but for the brows of the dead.

The German colony in Paris numbers now about 700 persons, men, women, and children. Before the investment of the city and the decree of expulsion which was issued there were 188,000 Germans in Paris. The 700 persons now in the city consist principally of invalids, old men, and children.

A letter from the King of Prussia to Prince Henry of the Netherlands, expresses the hope that the questions pending between Luxembourg and Germany will be amicably settled. The letter also assures the Prince that Germany has no intentions to imperil the existence of Luxembourg as a separate State.

Lord Granville, in a communication to Count Bismark, accepts the proposal of the German Chancellor to pay for the British vessels sunk at Duclair.

The diplomatists in Paris, except Mr. Washburne, have applied for leave to come out. Count Bismark has refused.

Measures have been taken in the French naval department to establish cruisers between the Straits of Gibraltar and the Channel, and nine vessels have been told off for this service, of which six are ironclads.

Louis Blanc, in a letter to Victor Hugo, argues that the capitulation of Paris would in no way terminate the war, as France would still fight on.

M. Gambetta has decided that from January 14 no more companies of Francs-tireurs should be formed. The formation of all other companies must be suspended, and the volunteers who have already joined them will either be discharged or incoporated into the active or auxiliary army.

The Prussians have requisitioned 40,000 francs at Yvetot, in order to punish the inhabitants for a manifestation of sympathy in favour of the Mayor of Bölbec, who had been carried off as a hostage by the enemy.

Count Bismark has been made Lieut.-General.

A Berlin telegram says:—"The rumours that proposals of peace have been addressed to Germany by the neutral Powers are unfounded. No such proposals would be entertained by Count Bismark. France must ask for peace herself if she want it." The propagation of reports of English mediation is calculated, it is thought here, to inspire the French with a belief in material assistance from Great Britain.

After the lapse of four weeks from the 12th inst. French merchantmen will no longer be free from capture by Prussian men-of-war, "in consequence of the French treatment of German merchant vessels contrary to international law."

Much indignation has been expressed in Germany at rifles having been found on French soldiers with the Enfield mark. The *Carlsruhe Gazette* says:—"It has been ascertained that during the American war several thousands of Enfield rifles were sold to the United States Government which had been manufactured by private industry, and possibly out of material sold by the Government. It is probable that these rifles, or a portion of them, have found their way into the market, and have been purchased by the French Government."

A large firm in Norwich is making 16,000 pairs of shoes for French soldiers. Only sixteen days are allowed for the execution of the order. Shoes, leggings, &c., for French troops are also being made on a large scale at Kettering.

In the late sortie from Paris the son of M. Ferdinand de Lesseps was wounded by a ball in the leg.

In his speech at Lille, M. Gambetta said that 15,000 Alsatians have left their invaded province and gone to Lyons, where they have enrolled themselves among the defenders of their country. "We cannot," he added, "desert them, because they are the representatives of those who have remained a prey to the vexations of the enemy."

Mr. W. E. Forster (in reply to Mr. Otway) explains his grounds for the statement at Bradford that Prussia acted on our advice in the withdrawal of Prince Leopold's candidature for Spain:—

Lord Granville, in his despatch to Lord A. Loftus of July 6, after saying that in the present state of opinion in France the possession of the Crown of Spain by a Prussian Prince would lead to great and dangerous irritation, expressed his hope that the King and his advisers would discourage such project. That this project was discouraged by the King of Prussia is, I think, proved by the statement which by his order was made to the French Ambassador on July 13, that he approved Prince Leopold's renunciation of his candidature in the same sense and to the same extent as His Majesty had previously approved his acceptance.

## EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

EXCITING SCENE AT THE CAPTURE OF LE MANS.—At half-past two in the afternoon the last train left the station at Le Mans, leaving behind it still five locomotives, and 160 carriages, vans, or trucks. Its departure was marked by a very dramatic incident. My informant stated that all were busy loading a train with a quantity of military stores, when suddenly an *employé*, dashing on to the platform with pale and excited face, ran up to the station-master, who was busy giving orders, and whispered something in his ear: The Prussians were marching on the town! The station-master called loudly for a train to be immediately formed, and in fifteen minutes fifty-four loaded carriages or trucks, drawn by two locomotives, were ready. Hastily the majority of the *employés*, station-master included, scrambled in. Half of the long convoy was beneath the marquise of the station, the remainder extended outside along the line. We were waiting, said my informant, for the signal to depart. The guard was leaning out of his van, about to assist a wounded soldier to get in, when suddenly a frightful crash was heard, and a great piece of the glass covering of the station fell shivered to pieces. A moment's pause, and a loud detonation was heard. A bomb had fallen through the shattered roof and exploded. Seeing it fall, the guard of the train hastily withdrew within his van. Not so, however, the unfortunate trooper. Before he had time to clamber into the train, the projectile had exploded, and cut him in two. The incident warned the engine-driver that there was no time to lose. The train steamed out of the station at as fast a rate as its extreme length would permit. It had scarcely been on its journey five minutes, when a continuous small-arm fire, intermixed with louder detonations, was plainly heard. My informant, who with some twenty *employés* of the company was seated in a goods van on the top of some cases of arms, looked through the small railed window of the van, and discovered a large body of Uhlans, who had evidently just rode up, and had failed to cut the line in time, discharging their pistols upon the train—happily, however, without effect. From the heights beyond came several shells which whizzed through the air over the train; one of them struck a goods van and passed right through it—as I saw for myself at Rennes, where the van now is. A minute afterwards shells and Uhlans were far behind, and at full speed the train passed over the bridge across the Sarthe, which a few minutes afterwards blew up. The remainder of the journey was safely accomplished.—*Letter in Pall Mall Gazette.*

A BONAPARTIST RESTORATION SCHEME.—The Brussels correspondent of the *Daily News* says:—"With the prisoner of Wilhelmshöhe restoration to the throne has become a fixed idea, and to arrive at it he is said to have imagined the division of Belgium, whose Flemish provinces are to be handed over to Holland, while the cession of the Walloon provinces to France is to compensate her for the abandonment to Germany of Alsace and part of Lorraine without Metz, which is to remain French, but to be dismantled. It is impossible to believe that such an arrangement, as objectionable from a moral as from a purely practicable point of view, could even for a moment be seriously entertained by Count Bismark. But it is feared on the one

hand, that he may, like most able players at games of skill, become enamoured of difficulties; and on the other hand, German newspapers, the *Cologne Gazette* among others, have lately and rather inopportunely spoken of what they choose to designate as a Flemish question. It may appear a curious fact that two nationalities such as the Flemish and Walloon should be able to live peacefully together under the same institutions; but the fact has nevertheless existed for the last forty years, and neither on the part of the Flemings, nor on that of the Walloons, is there the least inclination to sever the bonds which unite them. The explanation of the fact is most probably to be found in the perfect fairness and sincerity with which liberal Parliamentary institutions have been worked since their establishment. The Belgians, after having done their utmost in the scrupulous fulfilment of the duties of neutrality, are somewhat impatient at being annoyed by *ballons d'essai*, of Bonapartist or any other origin."

INCREASE OF DRUNKENNESS AMONG THE BESIEGERS OF PARIS.—Drunkenness is on the increase in the German army besieging Paris. In the active campaign preceding the siege you would hardly ever see a man drunk—now hiccoughing gentlemen making a staggering exit from the shop tenanted by a market-tender are far from uncommon. There is more than cause for this. The men in a siege get inexpressibly *ennuyé*, and somebody has said that the climax of *ennui* is delirium tremens or suicide. Perhaps even a stronger cause is the want of beer, and the consequent necessity, if a man gets drink at all, to take glass after glass of rotgut rum, schnapps, or arrack. If you give a German plenty of beer, you seldom see him actively drunk. He may be passively muzzy; but with thirty or forty glasses inside him, he will go through his facings so as to satisfy the sharpest sergeant in the service. But spirits double him, unless he be an East Prussian or a Pole. The former can take a stint about equal, I reckon, to a seasoned Scotch Highlander; the latter reckon brandy no more than water.—*Daily News Correspondent.*

FRENCH REINFORCEMENTS.—A correspondent of the *Telegraph* at Bordeaux, in reference to the calling out of the class of 1871 during the present month, says—"There will be no drawing for the conscription; all the young men liable for service are to be included, and must join the camps of instruction before the 31st instant. This will give 500,000 additional men to the soldiers of France. And if the French authorities would but economise their men, what a serviceable force they might yet have in the field! But they seem really to enrol men, to drill, and make soldiers of them, for the sole purpose of working them out before they can even meet the enemy. The manner in which they overlaid their infantry with cooking pots, tentes d'abri, knapsacks, and what not, is most absurd; and the men are really exhausted before they come into action. There are in this town at present some young troops, both of the line and of the Mobiles, on their way to the front. The loads which these men have to carry are something astounding. They go about bending under the weight, and wasting all their strength in getting to the field with things they will hardly ever use. Why do not they take a lesson from the Germans? Big, fine men as these are, they carry nothing but a very light knapsack and a rolled-up coat—which, by the way, has saved many a Prussian, Saxon, and Bavarian from a ball that would have killed him. But no; as the French fought in Algiers, where tentes d'abri are really of use to shelter the men from the sun, and where they have always time to pitch and strike their camp, so they will fight in the plains of France, where the tent is simply an encumbrance. What they carry in their knapsacks has always been a wonder to me—for, to judge by results, it can hardly be a change of clothes or the means for keeping themselves clean."

DEMORALISATION OF THE FRENCH TROOPS.—One of the *Times* correspondents relates an incident illustrating the utter demoralised condition of Chanzy's army. Two dragoons found themselves surrounded and about to be taken prisoners by thirty Mobiles. One of them could speak a little French, and one of the French soldiers was an Alsatian who could speak a little German; there was thus no difficulty in communicating. The dragoons refused to surrender on an entirely new and original ground. "If we go with you," said they, "we shall share your discomfort, but if you come with us you will share our comfort and escape all the dangers and hardships of the war. On the whole, you will gain far more by letting us take you than by making prisoners of us." This reasoning proved irresistible, and the two dragoons rode back to their regiment with their thirty Mobiles following them like sheep. The Grand Duke was so much pleased with the readiness they had displayed upon the occasion that he made them each a handsome present, which one of them was not destined long to enjoy, for he was shot dead a few hours later.

A CRUEL SURPRISE.—Paris has been very much astonished to learn that one of its pet heroes, Sergeant Hoff, was in reality a Bavarian lieutenant who was playing the part of a spy. For a long time Hoff was the object of universal admiration. General Trochu conferred the Legion of Honour upon him for having slain over thirty Prussians. General Schmitz gave him an official bulletin, and he was interviewed by journalists. Hoff generally used to go out alone at night, and bring back helmets and muskets in proof of the amount of business he had performed. In looking back at some notes, I find that when that wily gentleman went out with a party he generally advanced alone, and the Prussian post was soon heard scampering off. On the 2nd of December, Hoff, much to the grief of his comrades, disappeared, and the Government was greatly blamed for having allowed such a valuable man to go into action like a common mortal. In some quarters it was considered that Hoff should have replaced Trochu. When it was supposed that he had fallen, a subscription was raised for his disconsolate "widow," which was carried to that lady with the greatest respect by four officers, reminding one of Monsieur Malbrook's funeral. To the astonishment of the military deputation, the first exclamation of the bereaved one on seeing men in uniform enter her apartment was, "I didn't know he was a Prussian till the other day." *Tableau!* Paris can't help laughing at having been outwitted, shrugs its shoulders, and says, "*Sommes-nous bêtes?*" According to the Francs-tireurs, Hoff has since been caught and executed. I must say that I hope Hoff will live long enough to write his adventures and revisit his disconsolate Delilah.—*Letter in the Pall Mall Gazette.*

WHAT IS TO FOLLOW THE SURRENDER OF PARIS?—On the question whether the surrender of Paris will be followed by the submission of the rest of France, and, if not, what measures should be taken by the Germans, the *Spenersche Zeitung* writes:—"When Paris is taken the German host can seek out the richest provinces of France for itself, and there camped in great masses establish itself in absolute security. The region of communication with Germany can be made equally unassailable, as also such provinces as we think of keeping back for Germany. The task of the French governing powers, who will not hear of peace, will then be to bring continually fresh forces against the German positions, against which they will be ingloriously and uselessly dashed to pieces. We have taken the enemy's house by assuming the offensive; we defend ourselves not in our own but in the enemy's house; we only give up following him through every hole and corner of his fields and gardens. There is no fear that peace will be longer delayed when the enemy has learned the working of this method. Then, if by the exertion of all military means and sacrifices we occupy France, we could not govern the country and carry on its administration."

CONDITION OF FORT ISSY.—A correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, writing from Versailles on the 17th, says:—"This morning we had clear weather for the first time during the bombardment, and I was fortunately able to obtain a splendid view of Fort Issy, and so to be able to judge of the effects of the severe pounding it has undergone during the last ten days. It would be indiscreet to mention the spot from which Fort Issy was to be seen, for as we entered the house from the roof of which we obtained an 'aussicht,' Prince Hohenlohe, the chief of the artillery, left it. The three barracks in the fort have been completely gutted, as they were set on fire by the shells early in the bombardment, and there is nothing standing but their four walls; not a vestige of their roofs remains. Even the walls are in a very dilapidated condition, being pierced by shell-holes in all directions. But the destruction of the barracks was only to be expected, and the French themselves must have foreseen it as certain to occur directly the Prussian batteries opened fire on the fort. The ramparts of the fort did not seem to have suffered nearly so severely as the building within. From our point of observation, on a clear day, and with a very powerful glass (so powerful that we could clearly see the sentinels on Fort Bicêtre, some five or six miles distant), one could not discover any embrasures knocked into one, or anything that could by the widest stretch of imagination, be spoken of as a practicable breach. On one of the bastions nearest Meudon we could see a space some fifty feet in length which the Prussians had evidently been trying to make into a breach; but they appeared to have given up the attempt for the present, as all their shells were falling inside the fort, and not one went near the ramparts. The masonry of the scarp, which is exposed for some two feet to the enemy's fire, was damaged in places, but apparently not to such an extent as to allow the earth on the parapet to fall down into the ditch. Now that the thaw has set in, however, this may happen, as the earth forming the parapet will be turned into mud. It was impossible to make out any signs of a living being in Issy itself, though of course this was not surprising, as the guns were not manned; indeed, I think they had been removed from the embrasures. The Prussian shells were falling in the interior of the fort with the most perfect precision. There was hardly one that did not burst. We were able to judge of this because there were no salvoes fired from the Meudon and Bellevue batteries, but single shots, and we could see in Issy the puff of smoke of the bursting shells a few seconds after we heard the reports from the batteries. To-night the second parallel is to be opened against Issy, and I understand it will not be more than 1,000 yards from the fort itself. This muddy weather is of course greatly in favour of the besiegers, as they can dig their trenches with ease now, an operation attended with no little difficulty during the late severe frost. The Prussians are aware that there are mines all round the defences of Paris, and they believe that the glacis, if not the fort itself, is mined. It is not the least likely, therefore, that they will attempt to storm Issy, but they will quietly push on their works, passing between Issy and Vanvres if possible, and thus getting so near the *enceinte* as to be able to silence the guns mounted thereon, and then to shell the whole of the interior of Paris at their leisure."

## Foreign and Colonial.

### ITALY.

The *Daily Telegraph* publishes the following special telegram from Rome, dated Jan. 24th:—"Prince Humbert and the Princess Margherita arrived in Rome at four o'clock yesterday afternoon. Although the weather was horrible, an immense crowd had assembled at the station, and at the Quirinal Palace. The Prince and Princess drove in an open carriage, in which were also General La Marmora and Prince Doria, to the Palace of the Quirinal, amidst an enthusiastic demonstration. After they had entered the Palace, the people loudly called for their reappearance; and they both came forth on the balcony, and were received with great cheers. The charming courtesy of the Princess Margherita has won all hearts. She was dressed in a blue velvet mantle and a white scarf; these are the colours of the House of Savoy. Perfect order prevailed. In the evening there were illuminations.'i

The Ambassadors of Austria and North Germany, in compliance with instructions from their Governments, have inquired of Cardinal Antonelli what guarantee His Holiness would regard as sufficient on the part of the Italian Government to remove the disagreement at present existing between the civil and ecclesiastical authorities. In reply the Cardinal, by order of the Pope, intimated that the Court of Rome wished for no other guarantee than the pure and simple restitution of the territories of the Church from the Neapolitan frontier to the Po, and that His Holiness would accept no arrangement not based on those conditions.

The health of the Pope is good. He occupies his time in receiving visitors. A deputation from Belgium have presented an offering from the Catholics of that country, together with an address. To this the Pope replied:—

I thank you for having come to comfort me in these painful circumstances. What happens to-day is only a trial. The Church was born in the midst of trials, has always lived amidst them, and will close her career on earth amidst them. Your duty is to strive to be firm in the presence of danger. An Italian proverb says, "Speaking of death is one thing, but dying is another." People speak lightly of persecutions, but often find it difficult to support them. The world this day offers a painful spectacle, especially in Rome, wherein we see things to which our eyes are not accustomed. Let us all pray together that God may soon deliver His Church and restore public order, which is now so deeply disturbed. Your efforts, your prayers, your meetings, your pilgrimages tend to this end.

Other deputations, with gifts and addresses, are expected from England and Holland.

In the Chamber of Deputies on Saturday, Signor Visconti-Venosta answered several interpellations in reference to the foreign policy of the Government. The Minister spoke with the necessary reserve on the behaviour of the Italian Government in respect to the Franco-Prussian conflict. It was Italy gave the initiative, which was afterwards followed by the other neutral Powers, in bringing about the Conference between Count Bismark and M. Favre, and afterwards that between the Count and M. Thiers. No country in Europe had done so much as Italy to bring about peace. The duties imposed on it by its neutrality prevented it from doing more. No future occasion which might present itself for interfering in favour of peace would be neglected. In reference to the Black Sea question, Signor Venosta said the instructions given by the Italian representative at the Conference were inspired by desire for conciliation as far as respects for treaties would allow. The rights of navigation on the Danube would be seriously defended by the Minister. A good understanding now existed between Italy and Russia, which it was hoped the result of the Conference would confirm. As regards the Luxembourg question, the Foreign Minister signified that the Italian policy in that matter was in perfect conformity with that of the other signatory Powers of the London Treaty. The Deputies who had addressed the question to the Minister professed themselves satisfied his his answers.

### GERMANY.

The Federal treaties were sanctioned on Saturday by the Lower House of the Bavarian Legislature, 102 votes being registered in their favour, the Opposition mustering only forty-eight votes.

At Berlin, on the 10th, the appeal of Dr. Max Hirsch, editor of a newspaper called the *Workmen's Friend*, against a sentence of two months' imprisonment, came on for hearing before the Kammergericht. He had been prosecuted for high treason on account of an article on Napoleon's "internment" at Wilhelmshöhe. The Court acquitted him, on the ground that, under the new criminal code, which came into operation in North Germany on the 1st, he had only indulged in free criticism.

### SPAIN.

Advices from Madrid show that everything was going on tranquilly throughout the entire country, and that the character of the young King seemed to be daily more appreciated by the people, with the exception of several journals reputed to be in the pay of the fallen dynasty, or of the disappointed aspirant to the throne. Meanwhile there were symptoms of

disagreement among the so-called Republican party. According to a Ministerial journal, the Queen of Spain and the young Prince will leave Italy on the 22nd inst., accompanied by the Spanish Minister at Florence, and will arrive at Irun in about seven days, where she will be received by the King and two or three of the Ministers, who will thus have the opportunity of visiting Biscay and the northern provinces. On the 10th, Mr. Layard was the first foreign Minister to present his credentials to the King, in a speech expressing "the great interest with which Her Majesty and the British nation have seen his accession to the throne, and their wish to strengthen the friendship that during so many years has existed between the two countries." The Government are beginning to arrange matters for a new election of the Cortes, who are to meet in March.

## CHINA.

Mr. Wade reports, in a telegram dated January 5th, that all was right at Pekin and elsewhere; that the story of a piratical attack on a British ship at Newchwang was untrue; and that the five Legations at Pekin was well.

Chung-how, the Envoy sent by the Chinese Government on a propitiatory mission to France, arrived at Alexandria a few days ago, and it is reported that he is likely to come on to England first before attempting to fulfil his mission in the present distracted state of the French nation.

## AUSTRALIA.

By the overland mail we have news from Melbourne to the 5th of December. The leading items were reported some time ago by telegraph. The *Argus* says:—"The deepest interest continues to be felt regarding the war between France and Prussia, and the arrival of later European news excites the community from time to time to a high pitch of excitement. Regarding the attitude of England, and the position in which the colony may be placed in the event of the mother country taking part in the struggle, the public mind has been still further reassured by the contents of a special telegram sent by the Agent-General to the Treasurer of Victoria. In this telegram Mr. Verdon informed the Government that Earl Granville was of opinion that there was no present probability of England being involved in the war, and that if war were threatened no effort would be spared on the part of the British Government to give warning and protection to the colonies."

## FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

A Washington telegram states that Sir John Rose has had an interview with General Schenk and Mr. Butler and Mr. Sumner on the fishery question.

Cardinal Antonelli has been interviewed by a correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* at Rome. The Cardinal (so says the latter) "considered a settlement of the Roman question inevitable ultimately, but impossible before the cessation of the present war."

A letter from Rome states that the Pope has received a submissive letter from King Amadeus of Spain, soliciting the Pontifical blessing on his dynasty, and has returned an affectionate answer, expressing satisfaction at the King's election.

DROUGHT IN PERSIA.—Rain is still anxiously expected in Persia. Every week of continued drought increases the fear of famine among the poorer classes. Grain riots have again been heard of in Shiraz and the surrounding country. Wheat is now a commodity beyond the reach of all but the richer members of the community.

THE EX-EMPEROR AND THE POPE.—On the occasion of the New Year, the Holy Father received a letter from the Emperor Napoleon, who, with his congratulations expressed his disapproval of the violation of the September Convention by Italy and the seizure of Rome. In Florence, however, it is affirmed that a letter from the Emperor to the King of Italy congratulates him on having accomplished this consolidation of his kingdom.

A COOLIE SHIP ON FIRE.—A letter has been received in Boston from Batavia stating that a large Italian ship, the Uncowa, bound from Macao for Callao, with 507 coolies as emigrants, was set on fire by some of the Chinese when the ship was nearly opposite Neptune Island, the intention of the coolies being no doubt to plunder the ship and escape to the island. The fire, however, spread with great rapidity, and the captain and crew abandoned the ship, leaving the coolies to their fate. The captain and his crew were afterwards picked up by a San Salvadore ship; and another ship succeeded in rescuing 112 coolies; the remainder, to the number of 425, were burned to death or drowned.

PRUSSIA AND THE POPE.—A Berlin telegram states that telegraphic communications passed in October last between Count Bismark and Count Arnim, the Ambassador of the North German Confederation, on the subject of the Pope's departure from Rome:—"An inquiry on the part of the Pope, dated the 8th of October last, and transmitted to Versailles, by Count Arnim asking whether the Pope might count upon the King for security to depart with all due honours, was answered in the affirmative by Count Bismark on the same day. The Chancellor of the North German Confederation at the same time addressed the Italian Government on the subject, pointing out that it was the duty of the King of Prussia towards his Catholic subjects to aid in upholding the dignity and independance of the Pope. On the same subject a telegram from Florence states:—"Authoritative information from Rome announces that there has been a change in the manner of Count Arnim the Prussian Ambassador, towards the Vatican. Up to this time the attitude of the attitude of the Prussian representative has been personally very favourable to the Holy See."

REPORTED DEATH OF DR. LIVINGSTONE.—The death of the above great and world-renowned African traveller is once more reported; this time from Potchefstroom, and apparently on good authority. Mr. E. Pavey, who arrived here on Saturday from the above town, informs us that a regular post has recently been established by the Portuguese governor, now at Potchefstroom, to Quillimane (Mozambique), and that by this post letters have been received stating for a fact that Livingstone is no more; that news of his death has reached Zanzibar. Sir Roderick Murchison will probably refuse to give credence to the report; but, for our own part, we believe it is too true. The doctor has now been too long missing among the fever swamps and savage tribes of Central Africa to leave much hope of his reappearance among living men.—*The Natal Friend.*—[At the meeting of the Royal Geographical Society on Monday a member asked the chairman, Sir Henry Rawlinson, if any information had been received as to the fate of Dr. Livingstone. The chairman replied in the negative, and warned the fellows of the society against giving credence to the reports which had appeared in the papers relative to the death of that eminent traveller. There was, he said, a discrepancy of three months between dates which had been furnished, and he expressed his belief that the rumour was not entitled to the slightest consideration.]

## THE EDUCATION ACT.

### LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.

A meeting of the London School Board was held on Wednesday, the principal business of which was the election of the clerk to the board. It was proposed by Dr. Rigg that while the personal qualifications and comparative fitness of the candidates were discussed, the reporters should withdraw. This was opposed by Mr. Hepworth Dixon, Mr. Torrens, and others, while Mr. Freeman, Mr. Gover, and Mr. Lucraft were of opinion that discussion on the respective merits of the candidates was unnecessary, every member having probably made up his mind how he should vote. Mr. GOVER proposed, and Mr. HEPWORTH DIXON seconded, that the election should take place forthwith, and with open doors. On a division this was lost, there being thirteen for and thirty-four against. Dr. Rigg's motion was then carried by thirty-six against ten. The chamber was then cleared of strangers, and when the public was readmitted Lord LAWRENCE announced that the election had taken place, and that on the final ballot the numbers were—Mr. Croad, twenty-four, Mr. Lichfield, twenty-three. A formal resolution electing Mr. Croad was then put and carried. Mr. Croad took high honours at Cambridge, and from 1853 to 1863, he was a master in Rossall School, Lancashire, and during that time had considerable experience in teaching all classes. At the close of 1863 he joined the staff of the Bishop of London's Fund, of which society for the last four-and-a-half years he has been the secretary. The election of statistical secretary (for which there were 107 candidates, reduced by the committee to six) was fixed for the following Wednesday. The board then proceeded to consider the standing orders by which their proceedings will be regulated. The discussion was continued for some time, the result being an agreement to have four standing committees, viz:—1. Finance; 2. Works and General Purposes; 3. Officers and Clerks; and 4. Statistical Inquiries.

A proposition that these committees should be elected by ballot was rejected after a long discussion. All elections of officers, however, are to be by ballot. The Rev. W. ROGERS said there were already several schools waiting to be connected with the board, and he therefore proposed, "that in addition to the standing committees, a standing School and Education Committee be appointed; and that such committee be an open one to all members of the board who might choose to attend, with power to vote." This he proposed without any reference to an educational scheme, his object being to provide for the school waiting for admission until the board was properly organised. Mr. W. H. SMITH, M.P., remarked that the board had not yet grappled with the religious difficulty, or decided whether there should be religious teaching or not; therefore the first point to be determined by an educational committee would be the terms upon which the schools were to be taken into union with the board. Consequently, it would be premature to appoint a committee to deal simply with details. Mr. ROGERS, in deference to the wishes of the meeting, eventually withdrew the motion, and the board adjourned.

Notices have been given of motions to be made at the next meeting of the board, to-day, calculated to raise a personal religious difficulty. Mr. Smithies will move, "That each meeting of the board be commenced by prayer to Almighty God." The Rev. John Mee, one of the members for Southwark, will move, "That a committee, consisting of the following members of the board, be appointed to consider and report upon all the arrangements to be made in order to enable such members as may desire to unite in prayer a short time before the hour appointed for the meeting of the board—the Rev. Dr. Angus (Baptist), the Rev. Dr. Rigg (Wesleyan), Mr. Langdale (Roman Catholic), Mr. Walker (Congregationalist), and the Rev. John Mee (Episcopalian)."

### THE PROVINCES.

WALSALL.—In the town the ratepayers have agreed upon the names of eleven gentlemen to form a school board, so that there will be no contest. The list includes four Churchmen, two Wesleyans, one Independent, one Baptist, one Primitive Methodist, one Roman Catholic, and one working man.

IPSWICH.—There were some fifty candidates for the school board for this town, and a meeting was held last week to bring about an arrangement. The way was first of all cleared by all the clergymen and Dissenting ministers agreeing to withdraw. It was then, after much discussion, resolved that the Churchmen should agree to five names, and the Dissenters to five; it being unanimously agreed that Mr. R. C. Ransome should be the eleventh member of the board. The two bodies retired into separate rooms, and on their reassembling the following were the names reported:—Churchmen: J. P. Cobbold, S. Westhorp, C. H. Cowell, Dr. Chevalier, and W. Turner. Dissenters: R. L. Everett, W. Fraser, E. Grimwade, F. J. Bugg, and S. Alexander. The above will, therefore, form the board, all the other nominees having pledged themselves to withdraw.

BIRMINGHAM.—At the usual fortnightly meeting of the Birmingham School Board last week, Mr. G. D. Davis, schoolmaster of the Birmingham Severn-street British School, was appointed clerk to the board, at a salary of 250*l.* per annum. There were in all fifty-three candidates for the appointment.

MANCHESTER.—The school board for this city have before them the report of a sub-committee, which recommends the adoption of the following by-laws in relation to the payment of school fees by the board:—"That the whole of the school fees be paid in the following cases—Where the family consists of two persons, and the weekly income does not exceed 4s. per head, exclusive of rent; where the family consists of three or four persons, and the weekly income does not exceed 3s. 6d. per head; where the family consists of five or six persons, and the weekly income does not exceed 3s. per head. All applications not included in the above rules to be considered as special cases. The school fee allowed is not to exceed in any case 6d. per head per week." The following scale of fees was also recommended:—Boys in boys' schools under a master, 4d. per week; in mixed schools ditto, 3d.; under a mistress, 3d.; girls in girls' schools under a mistress, 3d.; in mixed schools ditto, 3d.; under a master, 3d.; in infant schools, 2d. per week; children under six years of age to be paid for as infants. The consideration of these recommendations was deferred. Mr. F. O. Ruspini, bookkeeper, Manchester, has been appointed clerk to the board.

OXFORD.—The election of a school board for this city takes place on the 1st of February. The ratepayers are to appoint six and the University three members. The citizen have commenced active preparations for a contest, which, from present appearances, seems likely to rival the election for members of Parliament.

DUDLEY.—The result of the school board election in this town is announced, viz., Mr. Millward (Methodist), 4,206; Dr. Higgs (Wesleyan), 4,205; Mr. Napier (Presbyterian), 4,164; Mr. Wade Robinson (Independent), 4,065; Mr. Tanfield (Wesleyan), 3,702; Mr. Grainger (Unitarian), 3,716; Rev. W. R. Cosens (Vicar), 3,511; Mr. Terry (Churchman), 3,020; Mr. Bagott (Churchman), 2,968; Rev. J. J. Slade (Vicar of Netherton), 2,792; and Mr. Russell (Churchman), 2,737.

EXETER.—In this city seventeen candidates have been nominated for nine seats. The Bishop and Miss Temple, and ten other Churchmen, are nominated; also a Quaker, two Methodists, a Wesleyan, and a Unitarian. Six nominees are Conservative, and ten Liberal. Neither party are united. The Bishop declines to stand; Miss Temple is disqualified by an informality.

Mr. Forster has received a deputation who "interviewed" him on two subjects connected with education. One portion of the deputation urged upon the Vice-President of the Council the desirability of teaching singing in elementary schools; and the other urged the importance of drill. Mr. Forster seemed to have no objection to either, or both, these matters being introduced into elementary schools; but he pointed out the difficulty of securing for the scholars the necessary time. As to singing, he recommended that some practical suggestions should be offered.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOLS.—The Christian Knowledge Society report, with reference to the 10,000*l.* recently voted for the building and enlarging of schools in connection with the Church of England and the erection of teachers' residences, that 977 applications were received for help towards accommodating 169,702 children. They accordingly determined to make grants as far as the money at their disposal would go at the rate of 5*s.* a head for the extra accommodation provided, with 10*l.* for a teacher's residence. On this basis they were able to assist 826 cases.

At the weekly meeting of the officers of the National Education League, held on Friday, the 20th inst., the following resolution was passed:—"That the committee of officers of the National Education League heartily congratulates the Liberals of Bradford and of Halifax upon their timely and decided protest against the sectarian character of the Education Act of last session, and against the coalition of Liberal Ministers with the Conservative party, by which the measure was carried through the House of Commons. The committee of officers commend the examples of Bradford and Halifax to other constituencies, especially to those whose representatives opposed or compromised the great principle maintained by the League as the only basis of a national system of education."

# Literature.

## *FRANCIS OF ASSISI.**

Who does not know the name of St. Francis? Yet who knows all his story? There is now, however, small excuse for ordinary readers not to know it in future, for Mrs. Oliphant has told it in this book in a most charming way. Roman Catholic readers perhaps may take delight in reading the Lives of the Saints, and count only as morsels of wonderful delicacy those marvels which would go nigh to choke and disgust all other readers. But here is a life of one of the chief of "the Saints," not with all the miracles expurgated, or explained away, but so judiciously chosen and inwoven that any Protestant reader must be interested, whether he believe or no.

The story of St. Francis is in some of its features a fac-simile of the story of many of the greatest heroes of the Christian Church of all times. The inner history of the Saint especially bears a strong resemblance to that of St. Paul, Martin Luther, and John Bunyan. Francesco Bernadone, son of Pietro Bernadone of Assisi, was a rich young gallant. His father was a merchant, well to do, and the son, though following his father's calling, and going "on 'Change" to sell rich velvets and the like, was still more like a prince's son, and by virtue of a certain unusual force of nature, and richness of disposition, was a sort of leader of all the gay young men of Assisi. Wherever there was revelling or singing in the streets young Bernadone was sure to be there, and his fine musical voice was heard above all the rest. His father's neighbours and equals seem to have been scandalised at his extravagance and wildness, but his parents were rather proud of their fine boy, and indulged him to the full extent of his desire. Had any Italian prophet ventured then to predict that he should by-and-by become the founder of an order of beggars—one of the most famous in the world—and should be himself the very Prince of Ascetics, all Assisi would have laughed at him. But God's ways are not our ways. Indeed, very few of us understand God's ways in these matters. For nothing was more likely, according to some very observable laws of human nature, than that if certain things should happen, this would be the very man who would develope into such a thing.

And this is how it did happen. Till the age of twenty-five he was "the Gay Trovatore." He was then, however, the subject of a serious illness which took him to death's door, and made so deep an impression on him that he could never be the same man again. His Catholic biographers make out that this was his conversion, and that henceforth his whole life was radically changed. So it was in a sense. But Mrs. Oliphant very reasonably combats this idea and says:—"The impression upon his "mind would not seem to have been strictly "religious. His real vocation had not occurred "to him, but only a sense of the deeper seriousness, importance and use of life, blended with "something of that ambition which belongs to "manhood in its maturer form." He now began to think of a soldier's life. Shortly after his recovery, as he was walking one day, drest in his fine clothes, he met a warrior "vilely clad," and immediately, with his old princeliness mixed now with more of pity, he exchanged clothes with him. This deed was rewarded by a "vision" the following night, in which he saw a palace and a splendid armoury, the weapons of which were all marked with a cross. A voice also assured him that it was for him and his future soldiers. At once he became a soldier. On his way southwards, however, he had another vision and another voice, which sent him back to Assisi, there to wait till the meaning of the first vision should be more fully revealed to him. He even lapsed so far as to join once more in the old revels. One night, however, coming out from one of the haunts of gaiety, he was suddenly struck with disgust at himself and the life he was living, and began from that moment a new career of self-sacrificing charity. After a time he visited Rome and St. Peter's, on whose steps he saw a crowd of abject beggars. His ardent heart was touched, and he exchanged his own rich garments with the poorest beggar there, and thus as it were baptized himself into that poverty which was to be his chosen lot for life, and to which as a religious duty he would lead thousands of men in after times. From that time a real and deep piety began to grow in his heart.

And now he had another vision, which got him into trouble, and led to his separation from his home, and the beginning of the beggar's life. He was in the habit of seeking out lonely places in which to pray—amongst the rest, a certain old ruined church, St. Damiano. Kneeling here one day, a voice said to him, "Seest "thou not that my house is in ruins? Go and "restore it for me." At once he rose from his knees, went home, took some pieces of rich stuff from his father's store, sold them, and brought the proceeds to the curate of the church, telling him all about what he had seen and done. The consequence of which was that the money was eventually restored; his father refused to acknowledge him for his son, and Francis renounced his sonship to Pietro Bernardone, and knew himself only as the child of God. He now began to wander about nursing lepers, and endeavouring to subdue every carnal inclination. However much like a madman he may have seemed to many of his old and wild companions, he was too much in earnest to fail of influencing some of the minds of the men of his time. Very soon he gathered one or two companions, who shared his life of poverty and piety, and, in the course of a little time, their number became seven. They begged their bread and spent all their time in offices of charity, and in preaching. And now, very naturally, arose the idea of forming themselves into a society, and seeking the sanction of the Church. Accordingly they went to Rome, obtained Papal sanction, were ordered to adopt the tonsure, and with much joy set themselves anew to their task. The name by which they called themselves was the "Frati Minores," or lesser brothers. The order of the Benedictines had been founded many years before. From this time their number began steadily to increase, until "the first twelve" had grown to a little army.

We must refer our readers to the book itself for the account of the rise of the "Second "Order" of female Franciscans out of the apparently accidental and somewhat questionable clandestine flight of Clara Scifa, afterwards "Santa Chiara," from her home to take counsel of Francis, and of her adoption of the Franciscan garb and rule.

Of course it is not to be expected that the life of so holy a man as St. Francis could be devoid of the element of miracle. Accordingly we are told how on two occasions having asked a multitude of birds to suspend their chattering till the brethren had done their chanting, the birds very kindly and unanimously complied with his request. On another occasion a leveret which was destined for his dinner, but which, out of compassion, he wished to let loose again, obstinately refused to leave him, and came back to him as often as it was sent away. On another occasion, he tamed a most ravenous wolf by an adjuration and the sign of the cross, so that it looked as meek as the holiest saint, and at Francis's request, politely shook hands with him with his right paw.

This will be enough, doubtless, of the story of the eminently pious and self-devoted, blindly, grandly enthusiastic man, to give our readers a desire to know more about him. A better told tale than Mrs. Oliphant's they could not have. She has drawn his portrait without blind worship, but without sectarian prejudice. She has been able fully to appreciate the deep religious earnestness of the saint, and at the same time to give that due share to natural causes in the production of some of the phenomena of his most remarkable life, which his earlier biographers could not. We thank her very much for her book.

* *Francis of Assisi.* By Mrs. OLIPHANT. (London: Macmillan and Co.)

## *DEAN MILMAN'S ESSAYS.**

Dean Milman was, as was generally known in literary circles, at one time one of the most constant and valued contributors to the *Quarterly*. Mr. Lockhart, its then editor, was his intimate friend; and we are told by the editor of the volume of his essays before us, that "scarcely a volume appeared which did not "contain at least one article from his pen. Other avocations and severer studies afterwards diverted him from these more ephemeral literary studies, but again, "towards the close of his "life, when the completion of the 'History of "Latin Christianity' had restored him to comparative leisure, he took pleasure in renewing "his connection with the *Review*." Altogether, a large amount of valuable matter must have been contributed to the *Review*; and though, of course, many of his papers were on subjects in ecclesiastical history with which he was most conversant, and some of them studies of characters afterwards elaborated more perfectly for his "History," yet they appear to have embraced also a considerable variety of subjects, some of merely passing interest, while others were of a more permanent character. We are glad to have the present selection, but we feel that there must be abundant materials for at least another volume. We hope that the editor will be encouraged to fulfil the half-formed intention here expressed to reproduce some of the other essays. It is after some years have elapsed, since their first appearance in the *Review*, that the republication of such papers as those of Dean Milman becomes of real use, for then they address themselves to a new class of readers, who have little opportunity, perhaps not much disposition, to refer to the *Review* volumes of bygone years. Of the character of Dean Milman's literary work, it is superfluous to speak. Happily for himself and for the Church, he selected as his principal field of labour, a department in which he was peculiarly qualified to excel, and in which there was a special need for a writer of his spirit and ability. Church history requires for its successful treatment a sympathetic spirit which shall nevertheless not be the spirit of the partisan, a power of appreciating the position of contending parties, and of looking at truth from their standpoint, which shall yet not degenerate into a latitudinarian idea that all were equally right and all equally wrong. An untiring diligence in research, and a varied learning with a skill in using it, which shall make the narrative full without suffering it to become wearisome, and a poetic temperament which shall enable the writer to lay hold of innumerable points of beauty and interest that do not reveal themselves to the common observer, but which the true artist can turn to such valuable purpose. To secure the intellectual qualities in this kind of combination is rare, to get the moral ones is still rarer. Few men have united both to such an extent as Dean Milman, and, Nonconformists though we are, we may congratulate ourselves that the learned leisure secured him by the deanery, enabled him to do such important service.

The two principal essays in this volume are on topics which though belonging to Church history have not come within the scope of his larger works, and have therefore very wisely been chosen for the place they occupy here. Considerable interest must attach to these original sketches, which, in their finished form, appear in the History; the comparison between the first outline and the finished picture will in many cases be extremely instructive. Still, for a republication of this character, the Editor has acted wisely in choosing articles that have not been introduced into the history, and it would not have been easy to find two men whose career supplied better opportunity for the exhibition of Dean Milman's characteristic genius than Erasmus and Savonarola. Both are men whose characters are somewhat of a puzzle, each of them occupied an independent position, and one very liable to be misunderstood, and if they are to be fairly judged, both of them require the exercise of a penetrating insight, a generous and Catholic spirit, a skill in estimating different traits, and comparing them with each other not often found. Dean Milman had that sympathy with them, with the one as a fearless champion of freedom, with the other as an eminent scholar, without which the idea of doing them justice would be hopeless, and yet he has not so much as to convert either into a hero. He was able to appreciate the enthusiasm and passion of the one, though he was not carried away by it, as he can understand the colder nature of the other and make all allowance for the appearance of selfishness and cowardice which it gave to his life.

There were many points in "Savonarola" in particular which would repel the Dean's sympathies, but it is interesting to see with what care he guards himself against allowing them to lead him to form too unfavourable a judgment of his character. He does not go with those who would fain represent him as a Reformer, only prevented by circumstances from anticipating the work done by Luther, for he sees that he was intensely monastic in all his thoughts and feelings, and would have converted Florence, Italy, the world, into one vast cloister. "The monastic virtues would still have been "the highest Christian graces; a more holy, "a more self-sacrificing, but hardly more gentle, "more humble, less domineering sacerdotalism "would have ruled the mind of man." To Dr. Milman, the political preaching of "Fra "Girolamo" was hardly more attractive than his monasticism, and his pretension to the gift of prophecy was most distasteful of all. But the Dean with his usual wisdom points out how much there was in the character of the Church to palliate, if not to excuse, these errors, and how ecclesiastics, of all others, had no right to cast the first stone at him. If he was an ardent, impassioned demagogue, swaying the people by

* *Savonarola, Erasmus, and Other Essays.* By H. H. MILMAN, D.D. Reprinted from the *Quarterly Review*. (London: John Murray.)

the force of his eloquence, was not the demagogue's *rôle* one which had been often played by the Holy Father himself? "Preachers, "saints—even female saints—(at Florence St. "Catharine of Sienna), had mingled in matters "of State. The Popes had been the demagogues "of Christendom; and, if they had shown a "tithe of the zeal for the liberties of mankind "of what they did for what they called their "own liberties, but which, in fact, was an iron "spiritual tyranny, they had been demagogues "to whom history might pay the highest "honour." Even as to his predictions, Savonarola could plead that the Church, in claiming a perpetual gift of prophecy, has cut away the ground on which she might have condemned him as a pretender.

As to Erasmus, the Dean was even more likely to comprehend him and to pass the most favourable verdict possible upon him. He had experienced so much himself of the obloquy to which men are exposed who cannot see with the eyes and speak in the approved phraseology of a party, who see so much of error on both sides in controversy that they hesitate to commit themselves decisively to either. He was so often reproached with laxity and latitudinarianism himself, that he was well able to sympathise with one who laid himself open to this kind of misconstruction. He may have judged Erasmus too leniently, but it is the best side on which to err, and there is a great deal to justify the conclusions which he has formed. A temperament like that of Erasmus naturally inclines a man to take a neutral attitude. It is offended by the tone of a man like Luther, detects the weakness of the position of extreme men, and so is repelled from them, loves peace, and is content to wait even for the reforms it desires till they can in time be peacefully secured. A man of this character is not the man for a time of trouble and conflict, and is pretty sure to be misunderstood probably by both sides. A neutral is seldom admired, yet he may be sincere and conscientious, and this credit Dean Milman claims for Erasmus. He had the usual fate of neutrals. "The extreme "Reformers taunted him as a cowardly apostate, "the Romanists as a cowardly hypocrite. "Neither party would believe that a man might "with reason condemn both." The truth is, he was learned. He had a clear view of many of the corruptions of Rome. He desired reformation, but he was not prepared to adopt any decided measures, and though by his work he laid the foundations of truth and liberty, he was not of the stuff of which Reformers must be made. We have no serious objection to make to the Dean's verdict. We value as highly as he did the work of Erasmus, but it is well for the world that it has had men of a different order.

The subjects of the other Essays in the volume will sufficiently indicate their character. They are—"The Popes of the Sixteenth and "Seventeenth Centuries," "Clement XIV. and "the Jesuits," "Newman on the Development "of Christian Doctrine," "Relation of the "Clergy to the People," "Pagan and Christian "Sepulchres."

## BRIEF NOTICES.

*A History of Wesleyan Missions.* By the Rev. WILLIAM MOISTER. (London: Elliot Stock.) It is of no use to mourn over the fact that the history of the great missionary work of the nineteenth century of Christianity has had to be written in sections, and cannot yet be written as a whole. When that can be, what a grand chapter of the world's history it will be! Let us rejoice, then, over the story which each of the sections has to tell of its own efforts at fulfilling the great commission, even if it does not always speak of glorious success. Looking only at the table of contents it is not a small matter that one great section of the Christian Church in England can speak of missionary work in 1, Europe; 2, America; 3, the West Indies; 4, Western Africa; 5, South Africa; 6, Australia; 7, New Zealand; 8, the Friendly Islands; 9, the Fiji Islands; 10, India; 11, China. Mr. Moister, himself a returned missionary, has done his work well. Like every other Methodist thing it is very Methodistic, but then it does not pretend to be anything else; one would like, however, now and then, to come across some recognition of the fact that there is at least a little portion of the Church of the living God outside of Methodism. The book is a bulky one of 560 pp. abounding in incidents of the missionary sort. We trust we shall not be misunderstood when we take exception to the doctrine contended for by Mr. Moister in his "Retrospect" under the section entitled "The Providence of God." He seems to us to imply faith in miraculous intervention for the protection of good men. Sceptics will ask the question, "Were those not good men, or was their work not of the Lord, who were permitted to be drowned, or devoured by beasts, or killed by savages, or smitten by tropical fever?" And they will not be satisfied by the answer that there was "doubtless some good end" in their destruction. Bad men have hairbreadth escapes on their way to bad ends. Is this miraculous too, "and for some good end"? The more heartily we wish all men to recognise that Providence, without which not a sparrow falls, and which numbers the very hairs of our head, the more do we regret this claim by good people for miraculous interference on their behalf.

*The Life of Arthur Tappan.* With Introductory Preface by the Rev. NEWMAN HALL. (Sampson Low, Son and Co.) Arthur Tappan was a successful American merchant, but he was also a successful philanthropist, and the story of his life, told in a simple and honest way by his brother, was well worth reissuing on this side the Atlantic. Mr. Tappan was a thorough abolitionist, and was firm to the cause when such devotion was not without risk. His store was attacked more than once, but opposition served only to intensify his devotion to the cause, and at length, in his old age, he saw American slavery brought to an end. No doubt there were some qualifications to his pleasure, seeing that he was always a moral-force abolitionist; but perhaps he only saw in the whole matter more clearly the hand of God, who does not work as men would have Him. Arthur Tappan shows in his own practice that it is possible to be "not "slothful in business, fervent in spirit, serving the "Lord." He never had a spare seat in his counting-room, so that when callers came they did not usually take up his time by staying after they had finished their business, as there was no way for them to sit down. But though Mr. Tappan was a man of few words, he had very active sympathies, and did not fail to give his own time to a good cause, though he would not countenance others in wasting theirs and his with empty gossip. Often when the observer would have fancied he was busy with his bank-book or ledger, he was quietly going over the papers or books of some benevolent institution, or scheming out some new Christian work. He was literally indefatigable—always intent on doing good. The book deserves a larger audience than, we fear, it will get in this country. The life of Arthur Tappan has a valuable lesson for a commercial nation, for, in spite of all that he gave to good objects both in time and money, he never seemed eventually to lose anything.

*A Manual of Systematic History.* By Dr. MARTIN REED. (London: Jarrold and Sons.) A work of great labour and corresponding value. The very best notice we can give of it will be to give an outline of its contents, merely premising that upon a careful examination we have not come across any inaccuracy. Part I. is devoted to the chronology of modern history (and it is a manual of *modern* history only) and consists of (1) a summary of chief events, ranged under the centuries consecutively, beginning with the year B.C. 56, with a separate column for (a) the sovereigns of different countries, (b) the illustrious citizens, (c) the chief men in literature, science, and art. (33 pp.) 2. Of genealogical tables of sovereigns of (a) England, (b) France, (c) Spain. 3. A table of kings and queens of England. 4. Statistical tables of war-forces, losses, population revenue debt, &c., ranged under the following "periods" —the Roman, Saxon, Norman, Plantagenet, Tudor, Stuart, and Hanoverian. 5. A comparative table of the army, navy revenue, and debt of the different countries in the world. 6. Explanatory notes of the dynastic and territorial history of the European nations. Part II. deals with the biography of modern history and has a notice more or less brief of some 1,400 personages, ranging from Alfred the Great to Adelina Patti. This part of the book occupies more than 280 pp. Part III. is devoted to the facts of English history, (1) naval, military and diplomatic, (2) constitutional, (3) social, industrial, and scientific. The index to these matters occupies itself 15 pp. It is in fact a sort of Liebig's Essence of History, to which the student or *littérateur* may go, if he be not himself a walking gazeteer, and find, without more than a few moments' search, just the bit of fact he wants, and which he can then dilute at will. The information is of necessity brief and much condensed; otherwise the book would have swelled into something more than a manual, or a book you can hold in your hand. We have no doubt it will become a universal school-book, and will have its place on every household shelf where the children are of an inquiring turn and the older folk wish them to be wise. We cordially thank Dr. Reed for his arduous labour and its most valuable results.

*Memorials of the Rev. Wm. Bull, of Newport Pagnell.* By his grandson, the Rev. JOSIAH BULL. (London: Elliot Stock.) Mr. Bull was one of the best known of Independent ministers in the palmy days of Puritanism, and a friend of Rowland Hill, John Newton, the poet Cowper, and Mr. Thornton. Judging from the portrait of him in his full-bottom wig and gown and bands, he must have been a Puritan of anything but the sour sort. Indeed, a very different type to the modern degenerate, and effeminate, and ascetic type of the same genus. A rich round face and a grand double-chin had Mr. Bull —more like a justice-of-the-peace than a holder-forth in conventicles. The book itself is full of interesting stories of himself and his friends, and will be read with great pleasure by many who knew nothing about the subject of this memorial. It is a pleasant peep at an age which has now all but entirely passed away, and a race of men of whom we fear but few remain.

*Toiling in Rowing.* Half-hours of Earnest Converse with my Hard-working Friends, by one who knows and loves them. (London: Nisbet and Co.) If the working people to whom this is addressed could be got to read such books as these, it might do them good, perhaps, though not of a very high sort. But they will not read it, nor go to hear the same sort of thing in churches. It is weak. Strings of passages of Scripture and of fragments of hymns are very good things in their way, but is it not possible to mix them up with a good, sound, sensible, strong sort of speech? It is religion, no doubt, that is here offered to the working men, but it is the water gruel of religion, and won't do for strong stomachs.

*Symbols of Christ.* By CHARLES STANFORD. Second thousand. *Power in Weakness.* By CHARLES STANFORD. Third edition. (London: Hodder and Stoughton. Mr. Stanford is too well known to need a word of commendation from us. We will not say we wish all sermons were like these, because we believe there are some that are better. But, these excepted, if all the rest were up to this mark, we should hear much less than we do of the decadence of the pulpit.

*The Heroes of Asgard.* Tales from Scandinavian Mythology. By A. and E. KEARY. (London: Macmillan and Co.) This is a second edition, with a number of excellent illustrations. It is not a translation, but a telling again of the old stories. If any of our readers have not yet seen the book, and have any taste for ancient lore or legend, we recommend it to them. It is a capital book for reading clubs.

*Bethany; or, Comfort in Sorrow, and Hope in Death.* By R. S. CANDLISH, D.D. (Edinburgh: A. and C. Black.) This book, a collection of four discourses taken from other already published works of the author, the first two of which are well adapted to comfort the mourners. Of the last two, we cannot say as much.

*Only Just Once, and Other Stories.* (London: Cassell, Petter, and Galpin.) A nice little book of pretty little stories, some of startling adventure, and some of a quieter sort, with several good illustrations. Sure to be a favourite with the little folk.

*Famous Girls who have Become Illustrious Women.* (London: Darton and Co.) This is a sixth edition of this interesting and beautiful book, very elegantly got up, and having an excellent photograph of the Queen as a viguette.

## THE SMALL-POX EPIDEMIC.

The Metropolitan Medical Officers of Health had a meeting on Saturday evening, when the discussion turned upon the epidemic of small-pox now spreading in London. An amendment in the present system of public vaccination was generally recommended. The Metropolitan Asylums Board, at their meeting on Saturday, voted the necessary funds for additional hospital accommodation for small-pox patients. The following resolution has been passed at a meeting of the Council of the Poor Law Medical Officers' Association:—"The Council, considering the present administrative arrangements for the performance of vaccination in the metropolis, where a frightful epidemic of small-pox is now raging, desire to point out that the plan adopted in Ireland has been eminently successful, while the mode now adopted in London has failed, and is not calculated to effect so desirable a consummation; they therefore recommend that the Dublin system of amalgamating the offices of district surgeon, vaccinator, and registrar should adopted throughout England, whereby a complete system of vaccination might be secured at the smallest public cost, and small-pox be averted as completely as it now is in Ireland. They see especially with regret at the present moment that, while a severe epidemic is present, the facilities for vaccination in London have, by the dismissal of many Poor Law vaccinators, been seriously curtailed."

A labourer of Limehouse was charged at the Thames Police-court on Friday with refusing to have his five children vaccinated. The prosecuting officer, however, withdrew the summons on the ground that the defendant had been sufficiently punished. His children had been afflicted with small-pox, and two of them had died.

A correspondent of the *Times* states that on Friday last in a Favourite omnibus coming from Upper Holloway he saw sitting in a corner, under shelter of her father, a little girl who appeared to have been recently suffering from small-pox. The father, on being asked if he was bringing his daughter from the Small-pox Hospital, candidly confessed that that was just what he was doing. The writer of the letter immediately protested, the conductor declined to take the girl further, and the passengers quickly vacated the omnibus. The correspondent adds:—"I was almost as sorry for the poor man as for the innocent public, which was unconsciously being exposed to the contagion of small-pox. He lived at New-cross, and it was pitiful to hear him ask how he was to get his little girl home if he was not to use public conveyances; the distance was nine miles. He had been told at the hospital that his daughter was fit to be removed on the previous Tuesday, but there she was with the receding eruption visible to me sitting on the opposite side of the omnibus, and much nearer the door. What a satire such arrangements are on the theory on which they are based—viz., the isolation of small-pox patients."

The *Observer* says that the question of vaccination is being considered by the Government. It is proposed that the magistrates shall have authority to direct the child to be taken to the public vaccinator. In order to increase the difficulty of evading the law, a reward of twenty shillings shall be paid to a person

giving information that a child over three months old has not been vaccinated. It is thought that these regulations will render vaccination universal and so stamp out small-pox.

## ENGLISH PROSPERITY AND PAUPERISM.

In the new number of the *Fortnightly Review*, Professor Fawcett, M.P., gives a melancholy answer to the question, "To what extent is England prosperous?" He shows that in spite of our statistics of increasing wealth and growing trade, we cannot be really prosperous while pauperism is so abundant. How to lessen pauperism is, indeed, the most pressing question of the day, and only when we have solved the problem are we entitled to boast of our prosperity:—"Let it at once be admitted that some branches of industry are reviving from the depression which has paralysed them since the panic of 1866. Let it be conceded that the revenue returns are satisfactory, that more money is paid away in wages, and that there is a greater consumption of the prime necessaries of life. Let the accuracy of all these assertions be at once assumed, and facts still remain which are ever reminding us that the wealth annually accumulating in England is so distributed that a million of our fellow-countrymen are paupers. A far greater number, probably, have to endure a more acute misery, for it is impossible to conceive the severe distress of those who have from day to day to struggle hard for a bare livelihood, and who know that they have no savings to withstand the trials of old age and sickness. It is idle to congratulate ourselves upon increasing exports and imports—it is a cruel irony to be ever boasting about our vast national wealth—when we know that as each winter recurs there are in the richest metropolis in the world 150,000 paupers. In addition to those actually in receipt of parochial relief, there are a countless number who cannot obtain a sufficiency of food, fuel, and clothing. With the return of inclement weather, the account of some poor creature being starved to death unfolds the terrible truth that there are those who are never reached either by the Poor-law or by charity, and who sink to the grave because they are too independent to accept the pauper's dole, or because they are too manly to beg, or too honest to practise the hypocrisy which so frequently imposes upon the charitable."

## Miscellaneous.

MR. GLADSTONE AND GREENWICH.—The Greenwich Advanced Liberal Association held a meeting on Saturday evening, to protest against the course of action adopted by a small section of the constituency towards Mr. Gladstone. A hearty and unqualified vote of confidence in the right hon. gentleman was passed.

LONDON TRAMWAYS.—There will soon be no lack of facilities for travelling in London. In addition to the cobweb of railways which spread overground and underground in all directions, street tramways are now about to be adopted on an extensive scale. The Metropolitan Board of Works has adopted a report of the Parliamentary Committee of the Board recommending the construction of thirty-one lines of tramways, radiating from the suburbs to some of the principal thoroughfares in the metropolis, and comprising sixty-five miles out of the hundred and fifty-eight miles for the making of which application has been made.

THE APPROACHING MARRIAGE OF THE PRINCESS LOUISE.—At a meeting of the officers of the Labour Representation League, held at Cockspur-street on Monday evening, the president, Mr. Robert M. Latham, with unanimous approval, gave notice of a motion condemning, as uncalled for, the offensive references to the dowry of the Princess Louise, and expressing his firm conviction that the working men of England would not permit their attention to be drawn away from the great question affecting their own and their country's welfare by paltry and vexatious attempts to excite unworthy prejudices in a matter which in its liberal and exceptional character commends itself to the hearty approval of the nation.

THE GREAT GUN OF THE BRITISH NAVY.—The new thirty-five-ton Woolwich rifled muzzle-loader underwent what is understood to be its final proof yesterday at the Arsenal Butts. It appears to be an absolute success. The tremendous charge of 130lb. of pebble powder was endured without any indications whatever of strain upon the metal. No such gun charge has ever before been fired. The velocity attained by the 700-pounder projectile was 1,348 per second, quite sufficient to ensure the piercing of the water-line belt of the Hercules at a thousand yards, and the complete penetration of the Konig Wilhelm at very considerably more than double that distance. Orders have been received at Woolwich for the construction of twelve others of the same calibre during the present year.

THE RECENT ECLIPSE OF THE SUN.—MR. Norman Lockyer, the leader of the Sicilian expedition, from a consideration of all the reports, observations, and drawings that have reached him up to the present time, concludes that the corona proper is the chromosphere of the sun—that it is a shell surrounding and enclosing that body to the distance of about 130,000 miles above the surface of the photosphere—that it is an unknown gas in a state of incandescence of itself able to reflect, or containing particles capable of reflecting the direct light of the sun—and that the rays and other irregularities observed, are produced by the earth's atmosphere in some unaccountable manner. This may be considered as expressing the general idea of the majority of the members of the expedition; but of course, any decided opinion would be as yet premature.—*Standard.*

INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION.—The Council of the Social Science Association has appointed a committee to consider whether some general scheme of international arbitration and mediation cannot be usefully recommended, and we learn that Professor Leone Levi, a member of the same committee, will read a paper on the subject on Wednesday evening next, in the rooms of the society. In anticipation of any congress which may be held at the conclusion of the present war, it would be well carefully to consider why the 23rd Protocol of the Paris Conference, recommending "that States between which any differences or any misunderstanding may arise should, before appealing to arms, have recourse to the good offices of a friendly power," should have so lamentably failed. It is the purpose of the committee of the Social Science Association to elaborate a definite plan, and Professor Leone Levi's paper will, doubtless, elucidate many of the difficult questions connected with it.

THE REPRESENTATION OF NORWICH.—A large meeting, representing the whole Liberal party, was held on Saturday night, and Mr. J. J. Colman was finally adopted as the candidate of the party for the seat vacant by the unseating of Mr. Tillett. Mr. Colman said he should, if returned, go to Parliament as an independent supporter of the present Government, believing as he did that Mr. Gladstone was the best man to conduct the affairs of the nation at the present time. He did not enter at length into his political views, for the reason that they were already well known in Norwich. He should adhere to the old Liberal programme of peace, retrenchment, and reform, as the source of true progress. He was prepared to accept the difficulties of the position of a citizen-candidate. The meeting was most united and enthusiastic. Mr. George Howell, of London, has come forward as a working men's candidate. On Monday night Mr. Howell addressed a large meeting of working men. He explained his political creed at length, contended that Mr. Colman was not in the field when he became a candidate, and argued that, if working men were to be represented, they must not wait for what might be deemed the proper time and place. A resolution was almost unanimously passed expressing a hope that Mr. Howell would not force himself upon the constituency after the almost unanimous choice of Mr. Colman by the Liberal Executive Council. It is very doubtful, however, whether Mr. Howell will go to the poll. No Conservative candidate has yet appeared, but a Conservative must be returned unless the Liberals can heal their differences. Mr. Colman commands the support of the great majority of the Liberals.

THE GREAT JEWEL ROBBERY.—A married woman, twenty-eight years of age, who gave the name of Martha Torpey, was on Saturday charged at the Marylebone Police-court with having been concerned in the late robbery of jewellery, the property of Messrs. London and Ryder. For the past few months the prisoner had been living at Windsorville, Leamington, and was arrested there by an officer of the local police on Thursday. Amongst the admissions which she then made was the following:—"Mind you, I only am to blame in the transaction; my husband would not have done such a thing if I had not compelled him to do it." Correspondence found in her possession seems to show that her husband had been on the continent at Amsterdam and elsewhere endeavouring to dispose of the stolen property. He, however, is not yet in custody. The prisoner, Mrs. Torpey, who is described as being highly educated, of ladylike manners, and well connected, has been remanded for a week. The diamond pendants which formed part of the property stolen from Messrs. London and Ryder have been recovered. It appears that on the day following the robbery a brown paper parcel was sent to Miss Goodrich, of Southampton, who knew Mrs. Torpey, together with a note from the latter, asking her friend, as a favour, to take charge of the parcel for a few days. Miss Goodrich undertook the task, as a matter of course, until she saw the account of the apprehension of Mrs. Torpey, when she immediately communicated with the police. The parcel was opened, and found to contain the two diamond pendants stolen from Messrs. London and Ryder's assistant. The police are said to be close upon the track of Torpey, who has written two more letters to his wife, and in one enclosed 35*l*. Mrs. Torpey, it is stated, formerly lived in New Bond-street, almost immediately opposite Messrs. London and Ryder's shop.

WORSHIP MUSIC IN MADAGASCAR.—The Rev. Robert Toy, speaking at the recent meetings of the Tonic Sol-fa College, gave a history of the efforts made in this island to promote the service of song. He said that something had been done by the older missionaries, who had taught the ordinary notation, and there were still three men in the capital who could read at sight a plain hymn-tune. Some time back, however, a number of dance-tunes were introduced by the French, and being played by the bands, their lively jingle caught the ears of the Malagash, who adopted them in the churches as hymn-tunes. The spirit of the hymn was constantly outraged by these tunes—he remembered a hymn describing future punishment being sung to one of them—but the people did not care if the tune did not fit the words, they were always satisfied if the words could be sung to the tune. On his arrival in the island Mr. Toy taught a Tonic Sol-fa class of forty or fifty, and continued it for two years, but he did not succeed in banishing these dance-tunes from the sanctuary, nor in persuading the people to sing English tunes, unless it were a few of the most lively in the Union Tune Book. The Malagash said the tunes might do for the English, but were not lively enough for them. About three years ago a united meeting of leaders of churches was held, and the people confessed themselves convinced that these dance-tunes were not such as should be used in God's house. After that a class of 300 was begun, to teach new tunes, but Mr. Toy being called to another part of the island, found it had dwindled to fifty on his return, and it was soon given up. The next effort was at the opening of one of the churches, when they taught with care and sang three anthems from Mr. Curwen's book. This was declared by the Malagash to be the best singing ever heard. The dance-tunes were now nearly extinct in the nine churches of the capital, and the singing in them would compare with that of English country churches. The people were not discouraged from making new tunes, but were urged to make them reverent, and such as all could join in. Mr. Richardson's arrival gave new impetus to the movement. He was full of energy, and had worked hard, but being now removed from the capital his work was at a standstill. There were now a great many who could read Solfa. In the institution which was being founded for the training of native preachers, it was intended to include singing in the course of teaching. Mr. Toy had the greatest confidence that the Tonic Solfa system would ultimately be the one generally adopted in the island.

## Gleanings.

During peace a regiment is quartered; during war time it is occasionally cut to pieces.

"A prudent man," says a witty Frenchman, "is like a pin. His head prevents him from going too far."

Frosted potatoes, now rather plentiful, if placed in cold water for a few days and then gradually dried will recover both their flavour and vitality.

A supply of new sovereigns has been issued to the public—bearing the old beautiful device of St. George and the Dragon.

A woman named Ellen Shute has just made her 251st appearance at the Bristol Police-court for drunkenness.

The *Medical Press* warns ladies against green gloves. It mentions a case in which skin-poisoning resulted from their use, an arsenical salt being employed to produce the colour.

We hear that at a fancy ball which took place in Brecon a short time since one lady went as "the Eclipse of the Sun," in a very remarkable yellow dress with a huge black patch in the centre of it!

An old farmer said of a minister whose sermons were much wanting in point, "Ah, yes, he's a good man, I dare say, but he will rake with the teeth upward."

Last week Robert Howlison, West Linton, Peebles-shire, was presented with an address and a purse containing twenty-five sovereigns, by a number of friends on the occasion of his 103rd birthday.

They tell of a spring in Michigan so strongly magnetic that a man who had drunk from it, and went into a blacksmith's shop, found the anvil on which he sat stuck fast to him, and had to have it amputated.

Some one describing a ball, said it was a vast assemblage of people who have never met before, and who never cared to meet again, and that they talked a little, danced a little, ate a little, and then went home cross and tired out, and scandalised not a little.

An actress was performing the part of Lady Anne, in King Richard the Third, at a country theatre; and on delivering the following passage, "When shall I have rest?" she was answered by her washerwoman, from the gallery, who exclaimed, "Never, till you pay me what you owe for washing."

Amongst the unknown curiosities in the British Museum are some cases bequeathed by Francis Douce, the literary antiquary, on the condition that they are not to be opened till the year 1900. No one is aware of their contents.

"Drawing-room Alcoholism,"—or, in plainer words, tippling by ladies—is, according to the *Saturday Review*, "an increasing evil." "Some sincere effort should be made to check habits which are notoriously on the increase, and which threaten to degrade women even of the well-born and educated classes beyond the help of theories, however brilliant, of their rights."

REMEDY FOR CHILBLAINS.—The *Medical Press* gives the following receipt for chilblains: Liniment of belladonna (two drachms), liniment of aconite (one drachm), carbolic acid (ten drops), to collodion flexile (one ounce), painted with a camel's hair pencil over their surface. When the chilblains slough omit the aconite. The collodion flexile forms a projecting film, which excludes the air, whilst the sedative liniments allay the irritation.

THE NEWEST THING IN PRESENTATIONS.—Under this heading the *Dundee Advertiser* says:—"It is long since the presentation system ran to seed. The number of paragraphs of this sort we have received has been so large that we felt incumbent to draw the line and reject those relating to the presentation of umbrellas, pocket-knives, and such like trifling

gifts. We must, however, make an exception in favour of Mrs. Jeffrey, midwife at Burghead, who has this this week been presented with the possession of a burial-place in that town! May it be long before Mrs. Jeffrey comes into possession of her novel resentation."

"BEST" BUTTER.—A correspondent, who says he read with interest our investigation of the Thames butter question, gives the result of a very simple analysis he has made of some best quality butter, and says that it contains at least 15 per cent. of water. He placed a quantity of butter in a glass vessel, and held it over a pan of hot water until the butter was dissolved into its component parts. When the liquid had been thoroughly cooled there was a layer of pure butter at the top, in the centre was a narrower layer of hair, dust, and cotton fibre, and at the bottom was precipitated the heavier matter—a kind of milky water.—*South London Press.*

A STORY OF THE DIAMOND FIELDS.—The following is from a new contemporary, the *Diamond Field* of the 27th of October:—"A capital story has just been brought in. A sweet-looking Koranna girl went out on the Pniel side, dipping up from the claim of a party in a bucket, and going down to the river and washing it for her own advantage. There was only one white man in charge of the party, and he a smart young Englishman. He was too gallant to drive away a girl, although she did not belong to his own fair race. He allowed the girl to go on taking up ground from the surface and washing it. At last she laughed and threw her hands about, and laughed heartily. Our friend the Englishman rushed over to see what was the matter, when he found that she had picked up a diamond, and a beauty too. The gentleman did the proper thing: he made her an offer on the spot. He is of first-rate family, and vows that he will introduce his wife to his family as an African Princess of great distinction."

SPURGEONIANA.—Most of the humorous anecdotes long current about Mr. Spurgeon, have a very Apocryphal look, and some are as old as Joe Miller. Mr. Spurgeon himself has the following note upon the subject in his *Sword and Trowel* for January:—"Y. F. is informed that the tales he has heard about us have not even a vestige of truth in them. We never said, 'How is your poor soul?' by way of parody on 'How are your poor feet?'—the story is a silly fabrication. 'Hooks and eyes for believers' is a very old business, known and laughed at before we were born. We are quite willing to take our fair share of the current criticism allotted to public men, but we cannot help saying that we very seldom read in print any anecdote connected with ourselves which has a shade of truth in it. Old Joe Millers, anecdotes of Rowland Hill, Sydney Smith, and John Barridge, and tales of remotest and fustiest antiquity, are imputed to us as they have been to men who went before, and will be to men who follow after. As a specimen of barefaced lying, we remember a person declaring in a public room that he saw us sliding down the rail of our pulpit in Park-street, to illustrate backsliding, at a time when the pulpit was in the wall, and no stairs whatever existed. That very story had been told of Lorenzo Dow, many years before. On the whole, we are inclined to believe that the trade in falsehood is rather brisk, or so many untruths would not be manufactured."

NOTICE.—*All announcements intended for this column must be accompanied by a remittance of half-a-crown in postage-stamps.*

## Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

### BIRTH.

SANGSTER.—Jan. 18, at Park-road, Hampstead, N.W., the wife of Mr. James Sangster, Paternoster-row, of a son.

### DEATHS.

NUNNELEY.—Jan. 4, at her residence, 2, De Montfort-square, Leicester, after a few hours' illness, Miss Eliza Nunneley, in the 68th year of her age.

HART.—Jan. 17, at 2, Busby-place, Camden-road, Philippa Baron, eldest child and only daughter of the Rev. T. Baron Hart, of the English Chapel, Rue Royale, Paris. Friends will please accept this intimation.

OSBORNE.—Jan. 19, at 144, High-street, Clapham, Mr. J. S. Osborne, aged 49 years.

EVANS.—Jan. 20, at Ottery St. Mary, Devon, Samuel Turnbull Evans, aged 51 years.

HAMPSON.—Jan. 21, of congestion of the lungs, the Rev. Aspinall Hampson, the beloved pastor of Buckingham Chapel, Pimlico.

MATHEWS.—Jan. 21, at 94, New Walk, Leicester, the residence of his daughter, Mrs. Shallett Dale, the Rev. Thomas Wright Mathews, youngest son of the late John Mathews, Esq., of Tynemouth, Northumberland, for nearly thirty-two years pastor of the General Baptist Church, Boston, Lincolnshire, in the 78rd year of his age.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Colds, Coughs, Shortness of Breath.—These corrective remedies are infallible for these pectoral complaints, which neglected often end in asthma, bronchitis, or consumption. The ointment well rubbed upon the chest and back penetrating the skin, is carried directly to the lungs, whence it expels all impurities. All the blood in the body constantly passes through the lungs, and where all noxious particles tending the produce disease, can be quickly, thoroughly and permanently neutralised, rendered harmless, or ejected from the system. In influenza and all chest complaints early curative measures are imperiously demanded, one day's delay may cause a protracted illness, one week's neglect may consign the disease to destruction.

QUININE WINE,—as supplied to the Sick and Wounded.—The many and expensive forms in which this well-known medicine is administered too often preclude its adoption as a general tonic. The success which has attended Waters's Quinine Wine arises from its careful preparation by the manufacturer. Each wineglassful contains sufficient quinine to make it an excellent restorative to the weak. It behoves the public to see that they have Waters's Quinine Wine, for the result of Chancery proceedings, a short time since, elicited the fact that one unprincipled imitator did not use quinine in the manufacture of his wine. All Grocers sell Waters's Quinine Wine. Waters and Williams, Original Makers, Worcester House, 24, Eastcheap, London. Agents, R. Lewis and Co., Worcester.

## BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Wednesday's *Gazette*.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, Jan. 18.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Notes issued | £36,189,785 | Government Debt | £11,015,100 |
| | | Other Securities | 3,984,900 |
| | | Gold Coin & Bullion | 21,189,785 |
| | £36,189,785 | | £36,189,785 |

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Proprietors' Capital | £14,553,000 | Government Securities (inc. dead weight annuity) | £14,525,669 |
| Rest | 3,322,551 | | |
| Public Deposits | 4,086,346 | | |
| Other Deposits | 21,134,135 | Other Securities | 16,163,015 |
| Seven Day and other Bills | 828,973 | Notes | 12,434,040 |
| | | Gold & Silver Coin | 800,231 |
| | £43,924,005 | | £43,924,005 |

Jan. 19, 1871. GEO. FORBES, Chief Cashier.

## Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, MARK LANE, Monday, Jan. 23.

The supply of English wheat for this morning's market was short, but a change of wind has brought us larger arrivals from America. The condition of English wheat after the break-up of the frost being indifferent, millers were not free buyers, and sales proceeded slowly at the rates of Monday last. In foreign wheat little business was doing, and American wheat was 1s. per qr. lower. The flour trade was dull at 6d. per sack and barrel dearer owing to continued demand for export. Peas, beans, and Indian corn were unchanged in value. Barley was steady at last week's prices. Of oats fair arrivals are to hand. We had an inactive trade, and prices were barely supported. At the ports of call a few cargoes of wheat at last week's prices, and Maize is 1s. per qr. dearer.

CURRENT PRICES.

| | Per Qr. s. | s. | | Per Qr. s. | s. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| WHEAT— | | | PEAS— | | |
| Essex and Kent, red | — | to — | Grey | 36 | to 38 |
| Ditto new | 49 | 54 | Maple | 41 | 42 |
| White | — | — | White | 38 | 40 |
| ,, new | 54 | 56 | Boilers | 36 | 40 |
| Foreign red | 50 | 54 | Foreign, boilers | 37 | 38 |
| ,, white | 52 | 56 | RYE | 36 | 38 |
| BARLEY— | | | OATS— | | |
| English malting | 31 | 34 | English feed | 22 | 26 |
| Chevalier | 35 | 41 | ,, potato | 27 | 34 |
| Distilling | 34 | 39 | Scotch feed | — | — |
| Foreign | 33 | 35 | ,, potato | — | — |
| MALT— | | | Irish black | 19 | 22 |
| Pale | — | — | ,, white | 20 | 23 |
| Chevalier | — | — | Foreign feed | 20 | 23 |
| Brown | 49 | 54 | FLOUR— | | |
| BEANS— | | | Town made | 44 | 47 |
| Ticks | 38 | 41 | Best country hald | 39 | 41 |
| Harrow | 41 | 46 | Norfolk & Suffolk | 35 | 37 |
| Small | — | — | | | |
| Egyptian | 38 | 39 | | | |

BREAD, London, Saturday, Jan. 21.—The prices in the Metropolis are, for Wheaten Bread, per 4lbs. loaf 7½d. to 8d. Household Bread, 6½d. to 7d.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, Monday, Jan. 23.—The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 2,047 head. In the corresponding week in 1870 we received 6,009; in 1869, 2,039; in 1868, 1,573; and in 1867, 6,923 head. The cattle to-day has been in a quiet state notwithstanding the shortness of the supplies, prices, however, have been maintained. As regards beasts the receipts again been only moderate, owing to the few foreigners present. The inquiry has been limited, but prices have been unchanged. For the best Scots and Crosses 5s. 10d. to 6s. per 8lbs. has been paid. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire, we received about 1,750 beasts and crosses, from other parts of England about 300 various breeds, from Scotland, 165 Scots and crosses, and from Ireland about 150 oxen. There has been only a moderate supply of sheep in the market. The best Downs and half-breds have sold at 5s. 10d. to 6s. per 8lbs., the latter quotation being extreme. Calves have been dull at nominal currencies. Pigs have been depressed.

For 8lbs. to sink the Offal.

| | s. | d. | s. | d. | | s. | d. | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Inf. coarse beasts | 3 | 6 | to 4 | 4 | Prime Southdown | 5 | 10 | to 6 | 2 |
| Second quality | 4 | 6 | 4 | 10 | Lambs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Prime large oxen | 5 | 4 | 5 | 8 | Lge. coarse calves | 3 | 8 | 4 | 4 |
| Prime Scots, &c. | 5 | 10 | 6 | 0 | Prime small | 5 | 0 | 6 | 4 |
| Coarse inf. sheep | 3 | 4 | 3 | 8 | Large hogs | 4 | 4 | 5 | 2 |
| Second quality | 4 | 2 | 4 | 6 | Neatsm. porkers | 5 | 6 | 6 | 4 |
| Pr. coarse woolled | 5 | 0 | 5 | 8 | | | | | |

Suckling calves, —s. to —s., and Quarter-old store pigs, 22s. to 32s. each.

METROPOLITAN MEAT MARKET, Monday, Jan. 23.—There has been a moderate supply of meat on offer. The trade has been quiet, at about late rates. The import into London last week consisted of 185 beasts 4 cases Meat, Diep, 14 packages 3 chests Hastings, and 50 qrs. Gluckstadt.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.

| | s. | d. | s. | d. | | s. | d. | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Inferior beef | 3 | 0 | to 3 | 8 | Prime ditto | 4 | 10 | 5 | 0 |
| Middling ditto | 4 | 0 | 4 | 4 | Veal | 5 | 4 | 5 | 8 |
| Prime large do. | 5 | 0 | 5 | 2 | Large pork | 3 | 8 | 4 | 8 |
| Do. small do. | 5 | 2 | 5 | 4 | Small pork | 4 | 8 | 4 | 10 |
| Inf. mutton | 3 | 0 | 3 | 8 | Lamb | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Middling ditto | 4 | 0 | 4 | 4 | | | | | |

PROVISIONS, Monday, Jan. 21.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 566 firkins butter and 3,592 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 22,843 packages butter and 695 bales bacon. The stock of Irish butter is now very small, and brings high prices according to quality. Dutch butter declined to 144s. to 146s.; quality not good. The bacon market further declined 2s. per cwt. At the decline there was more business transacted, and the market closed steady; best Waterford, 64s on board. Lard also declined 2s. per cwt., best Waterford bladdered offering at 78s. and Keg at 68s. on board.

COVENT GARDEN MARKET, Saturday, Jan. 21.—We have but a poor report to make, the markets being very unsettled, and trade exceeding dull, without any prospect of improvement. Amongst flowers we have Orchids, Heaths, Cyclamens, Primulas, Hyacinths, Tulips, Camellias, and Pelargoniums.

BOROUGH HOP MARKET, Monday, Jan. 23.—The low currency prevailing for English hops continues to attract the attention of both consumers and speculators, and has resulted in considerable sales, causing an advance from 3s. to 4s. on every class of goods. Finer sorts are difficult to obtain, being reserved for higher prices. Latest advices from New York report as follows: "Our market is very languid, and business, owing to the almost universal inferior grades of hops, is very unsatisfactory." Decent quality is rarely met with. Imports from 1st Sept., 1870, up to the present date amount to 19,252 bales. Mid and East Kents, 2l. 0s., 3l. 10s., to 7l. 0s.; Wealds, 2l. 0s., 3l. 15s., to 3l. 15s.; Sussex, 1l. 15s., 2l. 5s. to 3l. 10s.; Farnham and country, 3l. 15s., 4l. 15s., to 5l. 12s.; Olds, 1l. 0s., 1l. 15s., to 2l. 10s.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS.—Monday, Jan. 23.—These markets have been well supplied with potatoes. With a quiet trade, prices have ruled as under:—English Regents, 75s. to 95s. per ton; Scotch Regents, 75s. to 100s. per ton; Rocks, 65s. to 80s. per ton.

SEED, Monday, Jan. 23.—There was a fair quantity of English Cloverseed offering at this day's market; fine qualities commanded high prices, with a steady demand. The recent large import of American enabled the buyers to secure this description on lower terms. Choice white samples were quite as dear. There was a moderate sale for trefoil, and all sorts were steady in value. There was no quotable change in either brown or white mustardseed. Choice rapeseed was scarce, and very dear. Foreign tares were more saleable, and small samples quite as dear, with much inquiry for large Brunswick. English canaryseed brought full prices, with a steady demand. Large hempseed realised former values, but small qualities were securable for less money.

WOOL, Monday, Jan. 23.—Although a cheerful feeling has prevailed in the English wool market, the amount of business passing has not been extensive. Prices have nevertheless been firmly maintained. Prime wethers and good hoggs are still most in request, but middle hoggs have also changed hands to a small extent.

OIL, Monday, Jan. 23.—Linseed oil has ruled quiet at about late rates. Rape has been quiet. Other oils have sold slowly.

TALLOW, Monday, Jan. 23.—The market has been quiet. Y.C., spot, 45s. 3d per cwt. Town tallow, 44s. net cash.

COAL, Monday, Jan. 23.—Market heavy, at last prices. Hettons Wallsend, 18s.; Hetton Lyons, 16s 6d.; Tunstall, 15s. 6d.; Eden Main, 15s. 6d.; Holywell Main, 17s.; Tees, 17s 9d.; Wylam East, 17s. Ships fresh arrived, 42; left from last day, 30; total, 50; at sea, 30.

## Advertisements.

THE ELEMENTARY EDUCATION ACT

CENTRAL NONCONFORMIST COMMITTEE,
86, NEW STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

Just published,

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS FOR THE FORMATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS.

Information and advice may be obtained by application addressed to the "Secretary," at the office of the Committee.

THE LONDON AND GENERAL PERMANENT LAND, BUILDING, AND INVESTMENT SOCIETY.

Shares, £40. Monthly Subscription, 5s. Entrance Fee, 1s. per Share.

337, STRAND, W.C.

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The Right Hon. the Earl of Lichfield
Thomas Hughes, Esq., Q.C., M.P.
The Hon. H. F. Cowper, M.P.

CHAIRMAN OF DIRECTORS.

Thomas Hughes, Esq., Q.C., M.P.

Large or small sums received on deposit, repayable at short notice. Five per Cent. Interest Guaranteed. Shares may be taken at any time—no back payments.

Money ready to be advanced on Freehold or Leasehold Security.

The Last Annual Report states that 7½ PER CENT. PROFIT has been again apportioned to Shareholders, besides carrying a large addition to the Reserve Fund.

W. R. SELWAY, Managing Director.

BAPTIST COLLEGE, PONTYPOOL.—WANTED, a CLASSICAL TUTOR in the room of Mr. Jas. Sully, M.A., resigned. Salary, £150 per annum. Applications and Testimonials to be in the hands of the President, Rev. Dr. Thomas, at the College, not later than the 31st inst.

A CONGREGATIONAL MINISTER, Graduate in Honours, resident in the neighbourhood of the Crystal Palace, will RECEIVE TWO or THREE PUPILS into his family to prepare for School or College. References to E. Miall, Esq., M.P., Rev. E. Hailey, D.D., Rev. S. Newth, M.A.—Address, Rev. E. J., 79, Cheapside, E.C.

TO PARENTS.—An OPENING for a respectable YOUTH as an APPRENTICE in a high-class Gentlemen's HOSIERY Establishment.—Apply, Marsh and Humfrey, Hosiers, 246, Regent-street, London, W.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

Mr. COCKS BAINES, Surveyor and Valuer, begs to INFORM his Friends that he has REMOVED from 106, Cheapside, to No. 26, FINSBURY-PLACE, MOORGATE-STREET, E.C., where all future communications are requested to be addressed.

January, 1871.

BONUS YEAR—SPECIAL NOTICE.

CLERICAL, MEDICAL, and GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

ANNUAL INCOME, steadily increasing, £230,355.
ASSURANCE FUND, safely invested, £1,707,769.

The NINTH BONUS will be declared in JANUARY, 1872, and all With-Profit Policies in existence on the 30th June, 1871, will participate, so that Persons who complete such Assurances before June 30th next, will share in that Division, although one Premium only will have been paid.

Report and Balance Sheets, Forms of Proposal, and every information, can be obtained of

GEORGE CUTCLIFFE, Actuary and Secretary.

13, St. James's-square, London, S.W.

EDUCATION.—HAYES GRAMMAR SCHOOL, HAYES, near UXBRIDGE.

ADVANTAGES.—Stands in its own grounds of seven acres on gravel soil. Very healthy locality. Complete Classical and Commercial Education. Pupils prepared for Middle-class and other Examinations. Separate Beds, large Cricket-field and Playground. Terms moderate. Highest References.

MELVILLE RABAN, Head Master.

MR. STREETER (Successor to

HANCOCK and CO., Limited),

GOLDSMITH and JEWELLER,

WATCH and CLOCK-MAKER

TO the ROYAL FAMILY,

37, CONDUIT-STREET,

BOND-STREET, LONDON, W.,

INTRODUCER of the CELEBRATED

18-CARAT GOLD JEWELLERY, also

WATCHES and CLOCKS,

MACHINE-MADE.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| BRACELETS, STRAP, 18-CARAT | £5 | 0 |
| BRACELETS, ETRUSCAN, „ | £7 | 0 |
| BRACELETS, NINEVEH, „ | £10 | 0 |
| BRACELETS, SAXON, „ | £15 | 0 |
| BROOCHES, ETRUSCAN, „ | £2 | 10 |
| BROOCHES, NINEVEH, „ | £3 | 0 |
| BROOCHES, SAXON, „ | £4 | 0 |
| BROOCHES, EGYPTIAN, „ | £5 | 0 |
| CHAINS, PRINCESS, „ | £2 | 0 |
| CHAINS, CYLINDER, „ | £3 | 0 |
| CHAINS, CURB, „ | £4 | 0 |
| CHAINS, CABLE, „ | £5 | 0 |
| EARRINGS, ETRUSCAN, „ | £1 | 10 |
| EARRINGS, SAXON, „ | £2 | 5 |
| EARRINGS, EGYPTIAN, „ | £3 | 5 |
| EARRINGS, NINEVEH, „ | £4 | 10 |
| LOCKETS, ENGRAVED, „ | £1 | 0 |
| LOCKETS, CORDED, „ | £2 | 10 |
| LOCKETS, CROSS, „ | £4 | 0 |
| GOLD WATCHES, LADIES', | £8 | 8 |
| GOLD WATCHES, „ | £10 | 10 |
| GOLD WATCHES, ¾-PLATE, | £15 | 15 |
| GOLD WATCHES (HUNTING), | £11 | 11 |
| GOLD WATCHES, ¾-PLATE, | £16 | 16 |
| GOLD WATCHES, „ | £20 | 0 |
| GOLD WATCHES, KEYLESS | £15 | 10 |
| GOLD WATCHES, „ | £22 | 0 |
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